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Ann Arbor Observer

April 2012

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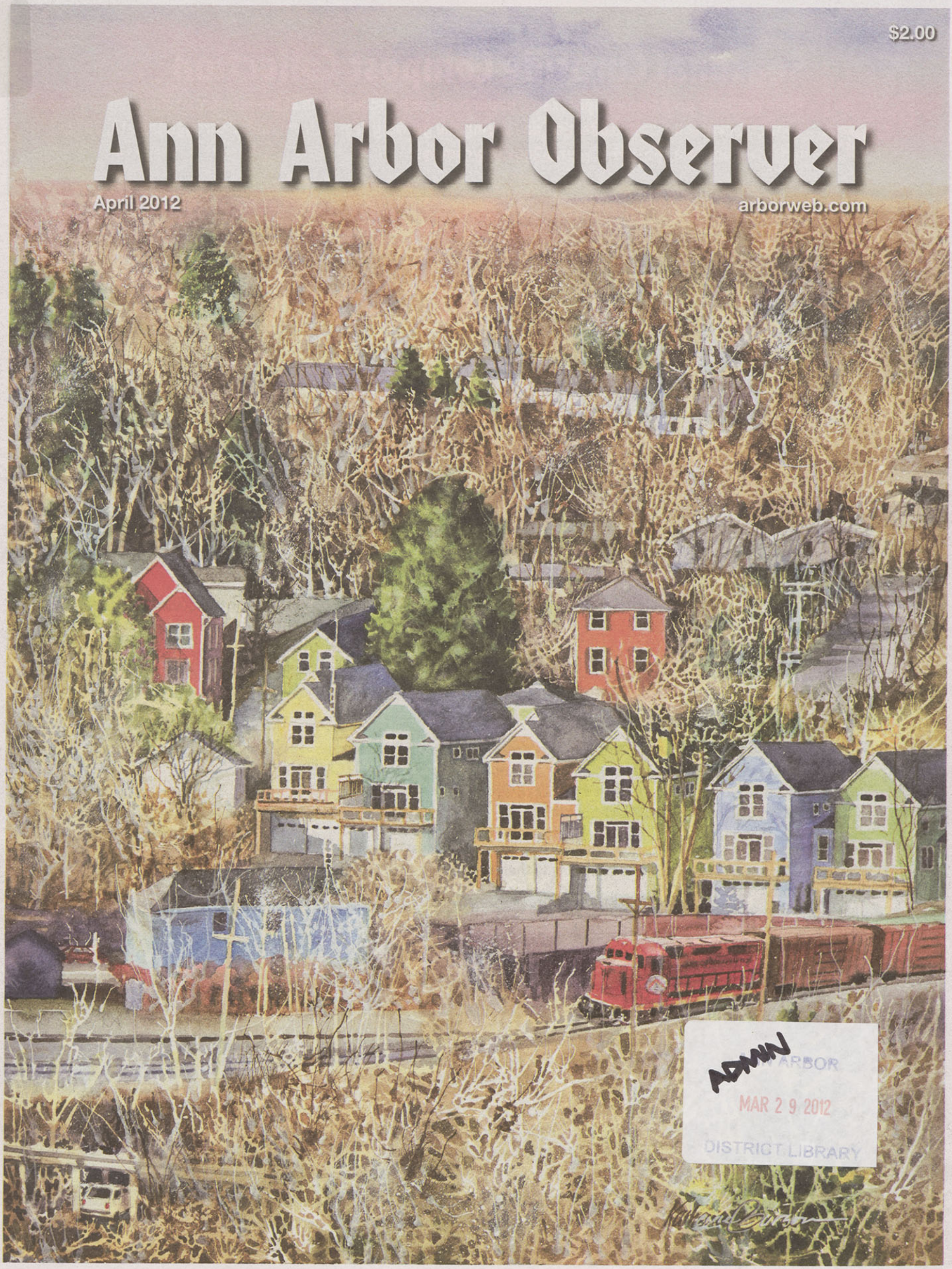

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Seasonal Curbside Compost Collection

Place properly-prepared compost carts, paper bags, or bundled brush at the residential curb before 7 a.m. on the weekly solid waste collection day during the growing season from April 2 through Dec. 14, 2012, unless extended as posted at www.a2gov.org/compost.

30-GALLON PAPER BAGS may be used for the basic yard waste collection storage. Each bag may weigh up to 50 pounds. Paper bags are available from local retailers and may be used for the basic yardwaste collection trimmings such as leaves, plants, and branches.

Paper bags may not be used for grass clippings or uncooked fruit or vegetable scraps in order to avoid attracting wildlife, producing odors, or creating unsafe conditions from wet, overweight, broken paper bags at the curb. Residents interested in participating in the expanded compost program must use a city-approved compost cart.

BUNDLED BRUSH and **TREE LIMBS** must be cut into 4-foot lengths or shorter. Please tie with natural twine into bundles up to 18-inches in diameter, and up to 50 pounds per bundle. Tree limbs must be under 6-inches in diameter.

Optional **COMPOST CARTS** in 35-, 64-, and 96-gallon sizes are available for a one-time purchase price of $50 each and are picked up from the city's Customer Service Center, 99.GREEN (734.994.7336). The center is open weekdays from 8-5 at 301 E. Huron in downtown Ann Arbor. Branches may not stick out of carts—the lids must be closed.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS Ann Arbor residents may include grass clippings, fruits and vegetables, uncoated paper plates, cups and napkins to their normal compost materials, placed inside compost carts.

PROHIBITED MATERIALS for compost collection:

NO: plastic bags, trash, meat, fish, bones, oils, dairy products, recyclables, stones, dirt, sod, animal waste, logs over 6-inches in diameter, stumps, painted or treated wood.

CITY RESIDENT COMPOSTABLE DROP-OFF DISCOUNT

Ann Arbor residents may deliver up to one cubic yard (or 6 yard waste bags) of acceptable yard waste materials per visit year-round at no charge during hours of operation to Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station, 2950 E. Ellsworth Road, 734.971.7400, www.recycleannarbor.org.

The DOS is open 3 days/week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (non-holidays). Ann Arbor residents must show proof of residency (a current water bill) to have the $3 DOS entry fee and allowable yardwaste drop-off charges waived.

The optional fall leaf drop-off program for Ann Arbor residents and their designated haulers will resume in the fall. Details will be provided later this summer at www.a2gov.org/leaves.

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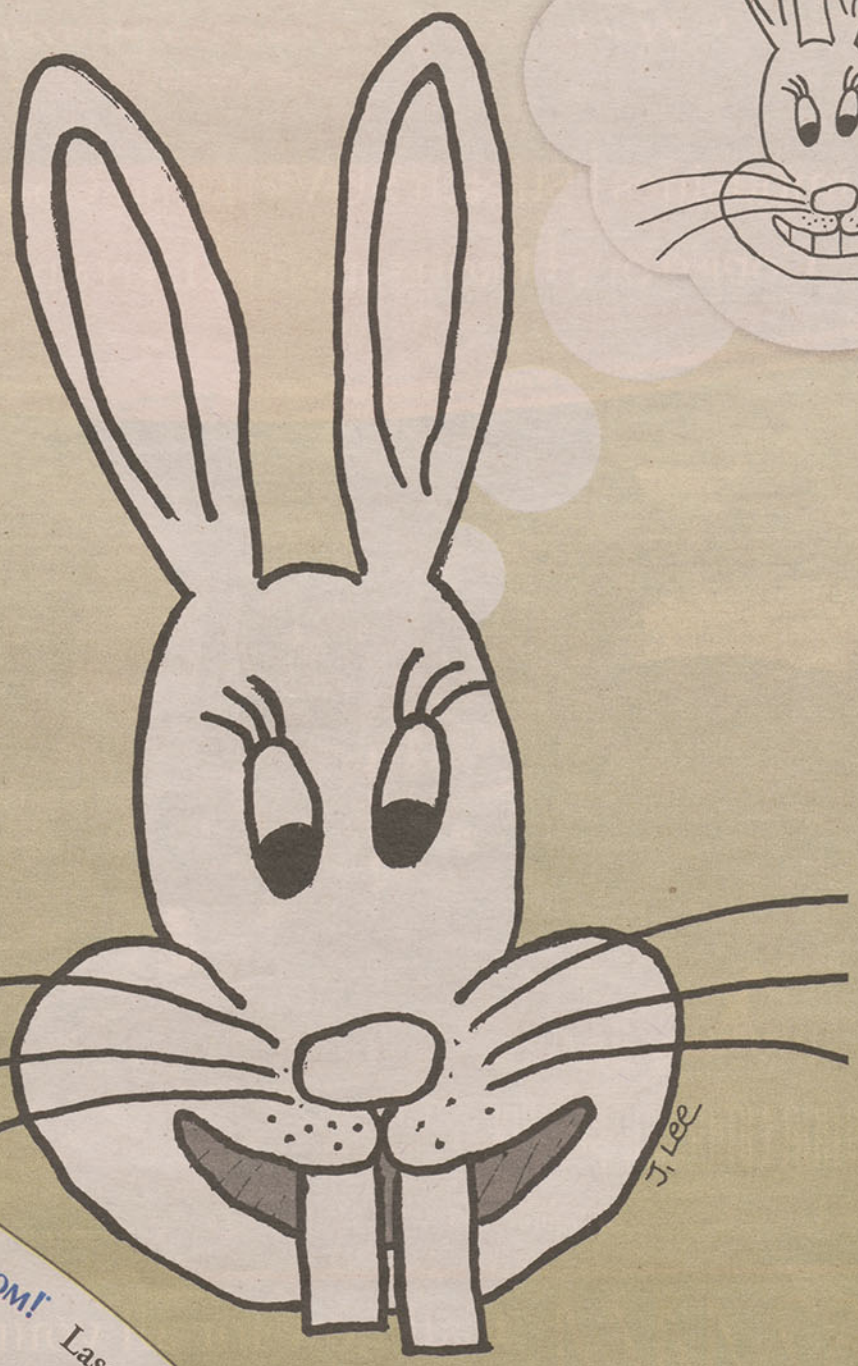

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...develop self-confidence and social/emotional skills such as playing fairly and sharing,

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For more information, contact the AAPS elementary school of your choice, visit our website - a2schools.org - or call 734-994-2200.

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Ann Arbor Observer

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Ann Arbor Public Schools announces:

Schools of Choice

AAPS is accepting enrollment applications for students living in Washtenaw County who wish to attend Ann Arbor Public Schools.

Applications accepted April 16 to May 16 for the 2012/2013 school year.

Washtenaw County residents are invited to submit enrollment applications for their incoming Kindergarten, 1st and 6th grade students through the AAPS Schools of Choice program. *Limited seats are also available for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders.*

Elementary Schools of Choice: Abbot, Bryant, Carpenter, Dicken, Eberwhite, Lakewood, Logan, Northside, Pittsfield, Pattengill and Thurston.

Middle Schools of Choice: Clague, Forsythe, Scarlett and Slauson.

Applications will only be accepted starting April 16. All applications must be received by May 16.

Applications are available online at www.a2schools.org or at the Ann Arbor Public Schools Administration Office, 2555 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or call 994-2200.

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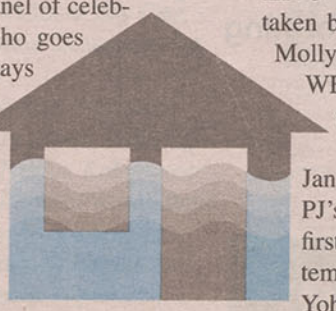
Missing MC: When the Hash Bash returns to the U-M Diag on April 7, it will be without longtime master of ceremonies Adam Brook. Brook, who once ran a hydroponics store in the Kerrytown district, currently resides at the Parnell Correction Facility in Jackson.

Brook was arrested last year after a police raid turned up more than a pound of marijuana and three loaded guns in his Royal Oak home. Brook's registration as a medical marijuana caregiver had expired, and the amount far exceeded what a caregiver is permitted to possess. He was sentenced last fall to two years.

In an email, new Bash organizer Andrew Kent calls Brook "a very passionate activist" whose efforts "have saved the Hash Bash on many occasions … Before he was arrested he paid income tax. Instead, we now waste tax dollars incarcerating him." Supporter Melissa Griggs, secretary of the Macomb County chapter of the National Organization of Marijuana Laws, calls him a "political prisoner"—and is selling "Free Adam Brook Now" T-shirts to raise money for Brook's prison store account. Don't look for them on the Diag since the university denied organizers' request for a vending permit. Instead, she'll sell them at the NORML booth at the Monroe St. Fair.

Waterfront living: Fans of "Project Runway" are familiar with the phrase "one minute you're in, the next minute you're out," as a panel of celebrities determines who goes home and who stays for another round. Five hundred forty Ann Arbor property owners received their own shakeup in February as an arduous process to redefine the boundaries of the city's floodplains was finally concluded. City officials say the new map "resembles" the old one completed in 1992, though new technology provides greater accuracy.



This is a map no one wants to be on, because residents in a floodplain can't get mortgages unless they buy federal flood insurance. "We're not high flyers with beachfront properties or owners of multimillion dollar mansions built on questionable turf," grumbles one homeowner on the Old West Side. He says he pays close to $2,000 annually for flood insurance, over and above the cost of his regular homeowners insurance.

Happily, the new maps place fewer homes in flood zones. Eighty-eight residential properties are newly in, but 204 others are now out. You can see which lots' statuses changed on a nifty online map at www.a2gov.org/floodplains.

Flood insurance is mandated only for properties whose mortgages are guaranteed by the federal government, but these days, that's nearly all of them. So for many homeowners, lenders will be the ones who determine how much protection is needed—giving a whole new meaning to a property being underwater.

Smart meters: Just how clever are the new electrical and gas meters that DTE is installing on homes and businesses throughout Ann Arbor? They'll tell the utility when a customer suffers a power outage. In the future, they'll communicate with "smart" appliances to tell them the cheapest time of day to turn on, among other things. And for customers who install photovoltaic systems, they can provide "net metering," giving them credit for the power they produce.

By March, DTE had replaced 7,000 out of 150,000 electrical meters in the Ann Arbor area—gas meters get an add-on module—at no cost to the customer, says company engineer John Jamerson. DTE notifies customers by snail mail three weeks in advance, and the switch takes just five minutes, but during that time, there's no electricity. So Jamerson recommends that customers who own super sensitive equipment or—here's the big one—happen to be on a life support system give a heads-up to the power company before they arrive.

Live at the Ravens: "We were taken by surprise by the PJ's sale," says Molly Motherwell, general manager of WEMU (89.1-FM). For two years, the jazz and blues public-radio station had been presenting the Jan Winkelman 5:01 Jazz Series at PJ's/Goodnight Gracie's at 5:01 on the first Friday of each month from September to May. Music director Linda Yohn and jazz critic/host Michael G. Nastos had booked bands for the third season when the new management announced it was cutting back on live music. Fortunately, one of the station's underwriters, the Ravens Club on Main near Washington, stepped in. "They set up the first show for us in three days," says Motherwell. Bassist Ron Brooks, once owner of the Bird of Paradise, was the headliner, and he packed the place. Many waited by the door but couldn't get seated.

There is little foot traffic on First and Huron, where PJ's was, and a good deal on Main. At the Ravens, 5:01 Jazz now attracts passersby who look into the venue's large windows and drop in. The crowd is younger, and so are many of the artists, such as trumpeter Ingrid Racine, who is booked for April (see Nightspots, p. 52). Although the space is smaller, the audience has doubled, and the club continues to fill beyond capacity. "It's a problem you're glad you have," says Yohn.

Rain, rain, come and stay: In March, Susan Bryan cooked up thirty-four batches of play dough, dyed them blue and green, and packed them in old yogurt containers. No, she's not a preschool teacher; she's the county's rain garden coordinator. She needed dough, along with some bendy straw "downspouts," to help thirty would-be Master Rain Gardeners learn how to contour land to retain stormwater.

"Our goal is to make rain gardens commonplace," says Harry Sheehan, environmental manager at the county water resources office. "We want thousands of people to do this."

They'll have their work cut out for them. Through 2010, only about 165 rain gardens had been installed in Ann Arbor. The city is hoping to encourage more, and in doing so, diminish troublesome storm water runoff, by offering discounts to anyone who installs a rain garden, cistern, or rain barrel, or pledges to run a RiverSafe Home (by, for example, properly disposing of hazardous wastes and minimizing use of lawn fertilizers). Do all three and you could save 25 percent on your storm water bill.

Social un-networking: Though fewer Christians abstain from eating meat during Lent now than in the past, many still choose to give up indulgences like pastries, or chocolate, or alcohol during the season of penitence leading up to Easter. "I gave up Facebook," says U-M grad and library assistant Deanna Parham.

Parham, twenty-four, says she wasn't as obsessed with the social networking site as some people she knows. But with her mobile phone set to remind her whenever a friend made a post, she found herself checking the site "constantly"—as often as thirty times a day. She can't even say why—she recently unfriended her boyfriend of three years, and changed her relationship status. Still, she says, "It's like a bad habit. You get Facebook anxious."

This year, one of her favorite Facebook days—her birthday—fell just after Ash Wednesday. She looked at her birthday greetings, posted "Thank you everybody" on her wall, and then deactivated her account. In March, she hadn't yet decided if she'll be Facebooking again after Easter. "Maybe. Maybe not," she says. "Hopefully, my habit will be broken." ■

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Back to the Future

The ghost of the Ann Arbor News *seems to be haunting AnnArbor.com.*

The latest redesign of the website's twice-weekly print edition added more state and national news and brought back travel and business sections—all staples in the daily newspaper that the Newhouse company killed off in 2009 in favor of AnnArbor.com, a web-print hybrid with a much smaller staff.

The new content is either shared with Newhouse's other Michigan papers or drawn from the Associated Press and other wire services. The business section, for instance, combines a local front page with state news and pages reproduced verbatim from the Sunday *Wall Street Journal.*

"The response from readers overall has been positive," chief content officer Tony Dearing writes in an email. In online comments, several readers enthused over the expanded Michigan and national news. Though the new, statewide comics section added new cartoons, a few also grumbled about the loss of old favorites.

The parent company must like what it's seeing in Ann Arbor: in December, Newhouse promoted CEO Matt Kraner to run its nj.com operation in New Jersey. He wasn't replaced, leaving AnnArbor.com to be run jointly by two News veterans: Dearing, who worked there for eleven years before a stint in Bay City, and executive VP Laurel Champion, the daily's last publisher.

In February, Newhouse eliminated its last Michigan daily papers, reducing the *Jackson Citizen-Patriot, Kalamazoo Gazette,* and *Grand Rapids Press* to three print editions a week. As it did in Ann Arbor, the parent company framed the changes not as a cutback in print, but a move online. Tellingly, though, it isn't trying to create unique websites for the other papers—instead, they're folded into the statewide MLive.com. And up in the Thumb, Booth is moving in the opposite direction—it's increased the frequency of the *Flint Journal, Bay City Times,* and *Saginaw News* from three days a week to four. (Dearing says there are no plans to increase the frequency of AnnArbor.com.)

Newhouse's other papers also kept their historic names, a smart move given the number of people who can't wrap their heads around the idea of a newspaper named after a website (the Observer still gets calls from readers asking how to find "the *Ann Arbor News*").

Since the number of pages hasn't changed, the syndicated content comes at the expense of local coverage—AnnArbor.com's great strength since recommitting to reporting last year. But the loss isn't as bad as it might have been, because the redesign also dropped many of the graphics and teasers previously used to make the paper easier to browse.

Those features were introduced back in the 1980s under the News's *last editor, Ed Petykiewicz, when local newspapers saw their future in imitating* USA Today. *Without them,* AnnArbor.com, *the paper, has a pleasantly old-fashioned feel—yet another step back to the future.*

ANN ARBOR.com

Six-month time lapse in U-M child porn case

Redesigned newspaper unveiled today

Distracted driving: the 'new DUI'

Ann Arbor records 13th warmest January on record

The new *Ann Arbor.com* looks a lot like the old *Ann Arbor News.*

Mission Accomplished

"I didn't think I'd be leaving so soon," says police chief Barnett Jones.

"I love this community," says Jones from his third-floor office in the new Justice Center. "This is my town. I was born here. I went to school here. Some of my first dates were here—and my first protests!"

Yet at the end of March Jones is leaving his job as Ann Arbor's chief of police after six years. "You've got to know when it's your time," he says. "And my job here is done."

When he came to Ann Arbor from Sterling Heights in June 2006, Jones was the fourth chief in fifteen years. Like all of them, he faced the same seemingly unsolvable problems: a run-down headquarters and hostile unions. And. like his immediate predecessor, he had a police force that had shrunk sharply—from a peak of 201 officers in 2001 to 149 when Jones arrived. After the economy crashed in 2008, that number went down again to a low of 119 this year.

All those problems are now solved—more or less. The chief points to the department's new headquarters in the Justice Center and to union contracts under which officers are paying more toward their health care and retirement benefits. Thanks to the concessions, "the department is hiring, and there have been promotions," Jones says. "It's a good sign. When I came, my mission was to stabilize the department, and the department is stabilized now."

Detective sergeant Pat Hughes, head of the Command Officers Association of Michigan local, says the departments unions have "maintained a mostly positive relationship with Barnett Jones during his tenure as chief. While we may not always agree on many of the issues that were discussed, we would characterize our relationship with Chief Jones as positive and respectful, with open communication and accessibility."

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"The department is hiring, and there have been promotions," says Jones. "It's a good sign."

"It's never been easy here," Jones continues. "We've lost officers every year." But Jones is proud that "I piloted us through the hardest times for law enforcement since I've been in the business—and I've done a damn good job."

Jones' bosses agree with his self-assessment. "Barnett came with a great reputation, and he leaves with a great reputation," says mayor John Hieftje. "I met with him every Wednesday to go over his numbers, and I was always impressed with his command of detail."

And, just as important when property values were falling and state revenue sharing was shrinking, "Barnett has a good understanding of what's happening statewide," Hieftje says. "He recognized reality and what had to happen." Or, as city administrator Steve Powers puts it, "Barnett did a very good job of leading a department that needed to reduce expenditures to meet revenues."

"I did what I had to do whether I liked it or not, and that included laying people off," says Jones. "I sat down with every person who got laid off, and I got some venom spewed on me. I tried to find jobs for everyone, but I still got venom."

That's the downside. On the upside,

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AT KERRYTOWN IN APRIL!

EVENTS

Mandala by John Gutoskey
Bag by Celibeth Donnelly
Dog & Bird Collage by Marsha Filipiak

Eco-Funky Art Show
At FOUND Celebrating Earth Day

Opening Reception April 20, 7-9pm
Weekend of April 20-22 Only

A festive celebration featuring 6 artists using recycled materials. Celibeth Donnelly, Textiles & cards. Marsha Filipiak, Collage. Cre Fuller, Tin Robots. John Gutoskey, Assemblage. Rena Hopkins, Steampunk. Sarah Stanton, Metal.

FREE TASTINGS
from 12 to 2pm
Ann Arbor Spice Merchants

APRIL 1ST
Delightful Sugar Cookies Gems rolled in our Infused Rasberry or Blueberry Sugars.

APRIL 21ST
Ice Tea! Pop in for a Sip!

The Great Cloth Diaper Change
April 21st from 11:30am to 1pm

Join Elephant Ears in this world-wide event to break the world record for the most cloth diapers changed at one time. Lots of giveaways and diaper discounts. Call the store at 622-9580 for more details and to register. Space is limited.

SPRINGTIME NEWS!

Mudpuddles is Bursting with Fun

Easter will be here soon, and Mudpuddles is the place for Soft Bunnies & Easter Basket surprises! You'll also find great outdoor fun...Kites, Bikes, Kickboard Scooters, Stomp Rockets, Kid's Gardening tools and so much more! Check out Mudpuddles and you'll see why clickondetroit & annarbor.com voters selected it as the Best Place for Toys in 2011!

Sparrow Markets Open on Easter Sunday
Open April 8th from 8am -12pm. All other merchants closed.

The Bunnies are Hopping at FOUND
April is the month for Easter finds at FOUND. Hop on up to the second floor and check out what's hatched.

Celebrate 14 Years in Kerrytown at Princess Designs April 1st to April 7th
April is the month of Princess Designs Anniversary in Kerrytown – 14 years! Enjoy sales of 20-30% off storewide.

16 Hands Traditional April Sale!
April 22nd to 28th-
A Different Sale Each Day

It all starts on **Earth Day with at least 20%** all items made from recycled or repurposed materials. **Monday 4/23 20-40%** off all furniture and lighting **Tuesday 4/24 20-40%** off all wall art and non-functional pieces **Wednesday, 4/25 20-40%** off all greeting cards, soaps, candles and magnets **Thursday, 4/26 20-40%** off all (non-jewelry) metalwork **Friday, 4/27 20-40%** off all glass and woodworking **Saturday, 4/28 20-60%** off all jewelry (just in time for Mother's Day)

Flying Pond, Oil Pastel by Jill Damon

Check out 16 Hands owner's pastel "Flying Pond" in upcoming film "The Five Year Engagement." Filmed in Ann Arbor in 2010, it debuts April 27th at major theaters nation-wide. The film also includes the work of several local artists.

Storytelling with Mother Goose
April 8th, 2pm – 2:30pm in Hollander's Book & Paper Arts. Free.

Play the Kerrytown Chime
Every Saturday: 10:30 -11:00 am and Wednesdays & Fridays: 12 to 12:30 pm.

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Market: M-F 8am to7pm • SAT 7am to 6pm; SUN 9am to 6pm
Second Floor Merchants: M-F open at 10;
SAT open at 9 • SUN open at 11

HOLLANDER'S APRIL
Paper Arts Workshops

Saturday, April 14
Exposed Spine Sewing Classics with Vicki Engling and First Time Papermaking with Karen O'Neal

Saturday, April 21
Sewn Board Book with Jean McCormick

Saturday, April 15
Hardcover Concertina & Slipcase with Jean Buescher Bartlett

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 17 and 18
Collage Techniques Sec 2 with Karen Izenberg

Saturday, April 21
Continuing Paper Making with Karen O'Neal

Sunday, April 22
Fan Glue Bindings with Eric Alstrom

Tuesday, April 24 and Tuesday, May 1
Paper Vessels with Karen O'Neal

Friday-Sunday April 27 to 29th
Wooden Cover Greek Binding with Daniel Essig

HOLLANDER'S APRIL
Cooking Classes

Tues, April 10th — 12 to 1
Three Chicken Dishes with Marge Biancke

Fri, April 13th — 11 to 1
Hands-on - French Cuisine II with Brigitte Romero

Sun, April 15th — 1 to 2
Cookies Three Ways with Brian Steinberg

Tues, April 17th — 12 to 1
Caribbean Pork Scaloppini with Marge Biancke

Fri, April 20th— 4 to 5
Perfectly Poached with Thais Anne Peterson

Sun, April 22nd— 1 to 2
Navajo Fry Bread with Brian Steinberg

Tues, April 24th — 12 to 1
Italian Cuisine Appetizers with Francesca Giarraffa

Sun, April 29th — 1 to 2
New York Style Pizza with Brian Steinberg

Visit www.hollanders.com for information

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Jones' biggest satisfaction as chief came "last December, when the last officer moved into this building. When I came, we were in the basement with water and radon and asbestos leaks. It should have been done forty years ago. But it did finally happen."

Jones recommended deputy chief John Seto as acting chief and thinks he deserves the job permanently. "He's qualified. He's gone to the FBI academy. He's gone to all training, and he's smart, personable, and knows the culture."

"John is a very strong candidate," says Powers, and Hieftje agrees. "He has all the qualities we're looking for." Though the police chief is currently also the safety services administrator and thus the fire chief's boss, Powers says he's "evaluating" whether that will continue.

Jones, fifty-nine, says that, while he's leaving his job in Ann Arbor, he's not planning on leaving law enforcement. "I don't want to retire," the feisty chief says. "I'm looking for a new challenge. Not at the U-M and not at EMU. But if somebody asked me, 'Would I go to Detroit?' I'd say, 'Hell, yes!' It'd be great to be able to help bring a city back."

Wherever he ends up working, Jones says he's not abandoning Ann Arbor. "I love this city, and I was here before I was chief, and I'll be here after," he says. "I'm looking forward to going to Michigan games with my wife and son and not having the responsibility for security so I can enjoy the game!"

Ann Arbor's Lobbyist

Meet Kirk Profit, the city's man in Lansing.

"When the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund announced their grants last November and the Gallup Park canoe livery project scored number two and the Vets Park skate park was number eleven, it was unprecedented in my experience. I can't recall another city having submitted two applications in a single year before, much less getting two approved for $300,000 each."

That's Kirk Profit speaking, Ann Arbor's lobbyist in Lansing. Coming out of Ypsilanti Township government in the 1980s, Profit spent ten years representing the eastern county in the state house before he turned to lobbying in 2002 as a director of the Lansing-based Governmental Consultant Service, Inc.

"I've been involved with the [Natural Resources] Trust Fund for over thirty years in one capacity or another," Profit explains. "The Huron River and Ford Lake were long ago identified as a focus for urban recreation in the county. Historically, Ford Lake was used as a place where waste was disposed of, and we only started cleaning it out after the fish kills of the 1970s. Then we started building parks all the way up the Huron, and [the Gallup Park livery] is part of that larger project."

Profit acknowledges the skate park is "a nontraditional piece for the trust fund. But the fund wants to broaden their scope, wants to find ways to be relevant to kids. I believe this is the first skate park the fund has ever approved. And let me stress that the skate park had no chance until city activists came forward—and I also have to give credit to the city's elected officials, who identified the skate park as a high priority for the community."

Who knew Ann Arbor had a lobbyist, much less one who could bring home so much bacon? "The contract with the city is ten years old now," explains Profit. "Several years back it became apparent to city council that Ann Arbor is one of the best communities in the country, but they weren't getting the leverage they needed with state resources. That's what I'm there for. Of course, Ann Arbor could build a skate park or a canoe livery if they wanted to, but there's no need for them to do so because there's the state government. That's what they're there for."

The city pays Profit's firm $48,000 a year from its general fund. Compared to this year's $600,000 payout, the lobbyist considers that "a pretty good ROI [return on investment]. But we also do quite a bit of other local government work, and not just natural resources. We worked on the Stadium Bridge, and we worked with [city CFO] Tom Crawford in employee compensation to make sure [new state] pension legislation reflected the interests of Ann Arbor."

Over more than twenty years in Lansing, Profit has seen state government change in many ways. "Term limits changed it dramatically. Term limits limit the pool of candidates and diminish the legislature's ability to deal with long-term and difficult issues. I watched Dave Hollister, the representative for the city of Lansing, deal with end-of-life issues, and it took him seventeen years to work through that."

Term limits also "made a dramatic shift in power to the majority caucuses," Profit says. "Now the minority's not nearly as powerful. And it shifted power to the speaker and away from the committee chairs."

MARK BIALEK

Profit helped the city win a pair of grants worth $600,000—"a pretty good ROI," he says, on his firm's $48,000 annual retainer.

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Some believe term limits have also made lobbyists more powerful. "I don't know if I share that opinion," Profit responds. "Some of this stuff I've been working on for close to thirty years now, and while that experience may give me some advantages, at the end of the day, I don't get to vote. The legislature does."

Profit won't say whether he agrees or disagrees with what Governor Snyder has accomplished since taking office a year ago, but does "give him a lot of credit for how much and how quickly he's done it. Of course, you have to remember Republicans control everything in state government. They've got the senate with a twenty-six to twelve majority, which is more than anything I've seen since the early 1980s, and they've got a sixty-two to forty-seven majority in the house, so the senate is veto-proof and the house all but veto-proof."

That said, "it's going to get more challenging going forward," Profit predicts. "The governor has had a focused agenda for the first six months, and he got there very efficiently. But the next items on the agenda aren't as easy.

"For example, fixing transportation is going to require more revenue, and that'll be a challenge," Profit says. "And some members of the legislature have their own social issues that they want to get passed, and their agendas don't necessarily reflect the governor's agenda. Seeing how they resolve that will be very interesting."

"A NuStep in every home"

Steve Sarns sees the future of fitness.

With his clear blue eyes and air of surprised delight, Steve Sarns, VP of sales and marketing for NuStep, is a highly successful salesman, a very persuasive speaker, and an apostle of wellness.

"In ten years, we want to be a household name," says Sarns. "We want a NuStep in every home. We want to be a part of every life. We want to help people to be the best they can be, no matter who they are."

That's a mighty big ambition for a family-owned business that makes all of its products in a former warehouse in Pittsfield Township, but it could happen. NuStep's handicapped-accessible, fixed-position exercise bikes are already in hospitals, physical therapy facilities, and heart rehabilitation clinics, as well as senior centers, senior living communities, and health clubs in every state, plus Canada, Japan, China, Italy, France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Norway, and Israel. Locally, they're in the YMCA and the Liberty Athletic Club, and all over the U-M. Since introducing NuStep nineteen years ago, the company has sold 60,000 machines; it currently has three models, priced from $3,595 to $5,995.

Sarns was born in Ann Arbor in 1955, the son of legendary local entrepreneur Dick Sarns. "My dad developed the heart-lung machine in his basement in [1960]," says the younger Sarns with understated but obvious pride. "He didn't invent it, but he did develop it, and it became the world's leading heart-lung machine. He sold the business in 1981 to 3M, and it's grown since then." Now owned by Terumo, Sarns heart-lung machines are still made in a factory on Jackson Road.

After graduating from Pioneer, Steve Sarns went to U-M, where he earned a master's in exercise physiology, aka kinesiology, in 1988. But that's not what he wound up doing for a living.

After his father sold Sarns, he "had the idea of a recumbent bike, and he started a company called LifePlus Inc. in 1987. I came in to help with sales, and shortly afterwards we saw that a recumbent bike was not going to be feasible. We were saying, 'Here's a bike seat' to people with chronic conditions and neurological conditions, with strokes and Parkinson's disease, with neuropathy and general weakness, to people who are sedentary, and to the wheelchair population. And it was very frustrating for them, because they wanted to exercise but they couldn't do it on a bicycle seat."

It was the younger Sarns who came up with a simple but elegant solution: a comfortable seat that swiveled. "I had the concept, and I got it from seeing people not being able to do it. The prototype was very basic, but when we had a woman not able to walk get on it, it was an 'Oh, my goodness' moment, and I knew it would work."

They introduced the NuStep in 1993 at the American College of Sports Medicine show in Seattle and the American Physical Therapy show in Chicago. "People loved it, and they needed very little education," Sarns recalls. "They got it immediately. Since then we've been able to sell it over the phone, and to this day, almost all sales are inside sales."

From Sarns' perspective, they're selling more than a fixed-position exercise bike for cardiac rehabilitation. "We aim

MARK BIALEK

Steve Sarns came up with the comfortable, swiveling seat that lets people with limited mobility use NuStep's stationary bike. The factory used to be Borders' warehouse.

Mimi's family has a history of breast cancer. Fortunately, her cancer was no match for our family.

Mimi's mother and sister died from breast cancer. And there was once a good chance that she may die from it as well. So when genetic testing at U-M's Comprehensive Cancer Center revealed she had a very high chance of developing breast and ovarian cancer, her team of specialists developed a plan to aggressively monitor and manage her health risk, which enabled them to catch the early stages of breast cancer. And because U-M has an integrated team of cancer and gynecological health experts trained to look at all aspects of a woman's physiology, they are better able to evaluate and formulate individualized treatment options that will give patients the peace of mind to get on with their lives. And in Mimi's case, leave a better legacy for her family. That's the Michigan Difference. To learn more, visit **UofMHealth.org/cancerrisk or call the Cancer AnswerLine at 800-865-1125.**

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SPRING: So much to do in the A² parks

Registration is open for spring/summer 2012 classes Register for spring/summer Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation classes. Walk into any parks facility or online at **www.a2gov.org/parks**.

Weekly @ the Ann Arbor Senior Center Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.; Sunday 1:30–4:30 p.m. Play Mah Jongg, enjoy a balanced lunch (11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., fee: $2.50), play a game or take a fitness, French or bridge class. **www.a2gov.org/senior** / 734.794.6250.

Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St.) Mack Pool offers lap swim, tot splash and family swim times every day. Daily admission/season passes available. Coached Master's practices are 6 days a week. The pool is available for rent (think: birthday party!). Details: **www.a2gov.org/mack** / 734.794.6237.

Saturdays at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. — 315 Detroit St., 734.794.6255 / **www.a2gov.org/market.**

A2 Golf! The city's two golf courses, Huron Hills and Leslie Park, are now open. For golf news: www.a2golf.org or call 734.794.6245; to receive golf e-updates: **www.a2gov.org/subscribe.**

Friday, April 6 is the Good Friday Golf Scramble — Leslie Park Golf Course, 2120 Traver Road. Check in at noon; shotgun start at 1 p.m. Included: 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, prizes and a coupon for one free 18-hole round at Huron Hills Golf Course. **Entries with full information must be turned or called in no later than 9 a.m. April 5.** / 734.794.6245.

Parks&Recreation
CITY OF ANN ARBOR

Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Huron River Clean Up — Gallup Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Road. Join crews from the Great Lakes ER Lab and the EPA to help pick up trash on the river by canoe. Call David Fanslow at 734.741.2353 to pre register.

10 a.m.–2 p.m. Volunteer 365 Event: Gallup Canoe Livery Set Up — Help paint paddle boats, organize supplies and spruce up the facility. Details: **www.a2gov.org/volunteer**. To volunteer: volunteer@a2gov.org / 734.794.6230, ext. 42510.

Sunday, April 15 from 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Gallup Canoe Livery Opening Weekend! — 3000 Fuller Road. Enjoy a free cup of coffee, tea/cocoa on the Huron River. Fee: $18/boat. Details: 734.794.6240 / **www.a2gov.org/canoe.**

Sunday and Monday, April 22–23 is a Volunteer 365 Event: Earth Day Volunteer Hunt. This second annual event spans five Ann Arbor recreation facility over a two days. At each event location, receive a unique small token of thanks for your service. Sunday, April 22 schedule: noon– 2 p.m. Fuller Park Pool flower bed planting; 2:15– 4 p.m. Gallup Park trail pick up. April 23 schedule: 9–10:30 a.m. Veteran's Memorial Park Trash-a-thon; 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Fuller Park curb weeding and painting; 1:45–4 p.m. Buhr Park Pool flower bed prep and planting. Details: **www.a2gov.org/volunteer.** To volunteer: **volunteer@a2gov.org** / 734.794.6230, ext. 42510.

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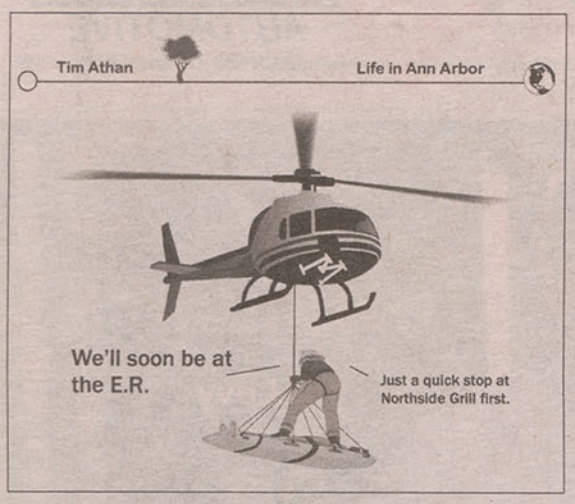

for universal design, something totally inclusive. The seat is great, but on each pedal is a footplate with a heel cup so you can fix your foot there. And we have arm rests with grips and leg stabilizers to keep the legs in position." These features allow people with strokes, spinal cord injuries, and other neurological problems to use the machine.

"Most fitness equipment was designed for the young and the fit, not for people with injuries or the aging," says Sarns. "But inclusive fitness means any individual, no matter who, can utilize the product. After all, 85 percent of the population needs more exercise."

Sarns is on a roll. "We want to change the health club industry. Now the emphasis is on the young and fit, but the population as a whole is not young and fit. So many people want to exercise, but health clubs are not welcoming to the overweight, not accepting and understanding of people with disabilities."

Why stop with the injured, the aging, and the overweight? "There'll be NuStepping for kids," Sarns continues happily. "Kids are sitting all day on computers, and a thirty-minute workout a couple times a week just doesn't compensate. With a NuStep in the home, they could exercise every half-hour or so."

Dave Morris, health and wellness director at the Ann Arbor YMCA, says they started with two machines and are up to eight now. "They get a lot of use," says Morris. "It used to be people with limited mobility and people with injuries. Then a lot of older adults started using them because they can sit comfortably and can't fall off. Now all sorts of folks use them."

From a local perspective, perhaps the coolest thing about NuStep is that every step of the manufacturing process is done right here. They used to subcontract some work, Sarns says, but "when they delivered parts that were not the quality we needed, we decided to do it ourselves from raw material."

Their 57,000-square-foot factory—a former Borders book warehouse—employs forty-five people, who build each machine from scratch, starting with sheet steel and bar stock. At a nearby administration building, another forty people market and sell them. Though unwilling to reveal much about the company's finances, Sarns says revenue increased 12 percent from 2010 to 2011 and that 2011 was the best year yet in profitability.

"Prevention is the future; being still active is the magic," Sarns says with a beatific smile. "My dad is eighty-four, and he's the CEO and still comes in every day at nine. Mom has MS but she comes in every day at one, and they leave together at six. We're in the business of aging successfully, and they're our models."

calls & letters

Dorothy Goeman

Ambiguous wording in last month's feature, "The Dance for Mother Earth," left some readers confused about the ancestry of former U-M Native American representative Dorothy Goeman. Writer Kim Elsifor has no Indian heritage—but Goeman is a full-blooded Sault St. Marie Chippewa.

Two corrections

"It's a nice picture," Priscilla Gillespie said in a voicemail message. "You did get my name wrong." A caption in our March feature "The Ragged Recovery" mistakenly gave Gillespie's first name as "Patricia." Our apologies for the error.

Joyce Williams, spokeswoman for Huron Valley Ambulance, emailed a correction to our February feature on the nonprofit. Our list of the communities HVA serves should not have included Mount Clemens and Saginaw. HVA works with agencies in those communities.

question corner

Q. Is anything being done about the dilapidated gas station at Miller and Maple? And what's going on with the empty store across the street? It's been unoccupied for years.

A. Speedway has submitted site plans to demolish the existing building, built in 1962, to construct a 3,968-square-foot gas station and convenience store.

The former station on the southwest corner was converted to retail space in 2007 but has been empty ever since. Last summer Subway announced it would rent part of the space, and that's still the plan. Colliers broker Brendan Cavender says they have a tenant for the remaining spot, and will be making an announcement about that soon.

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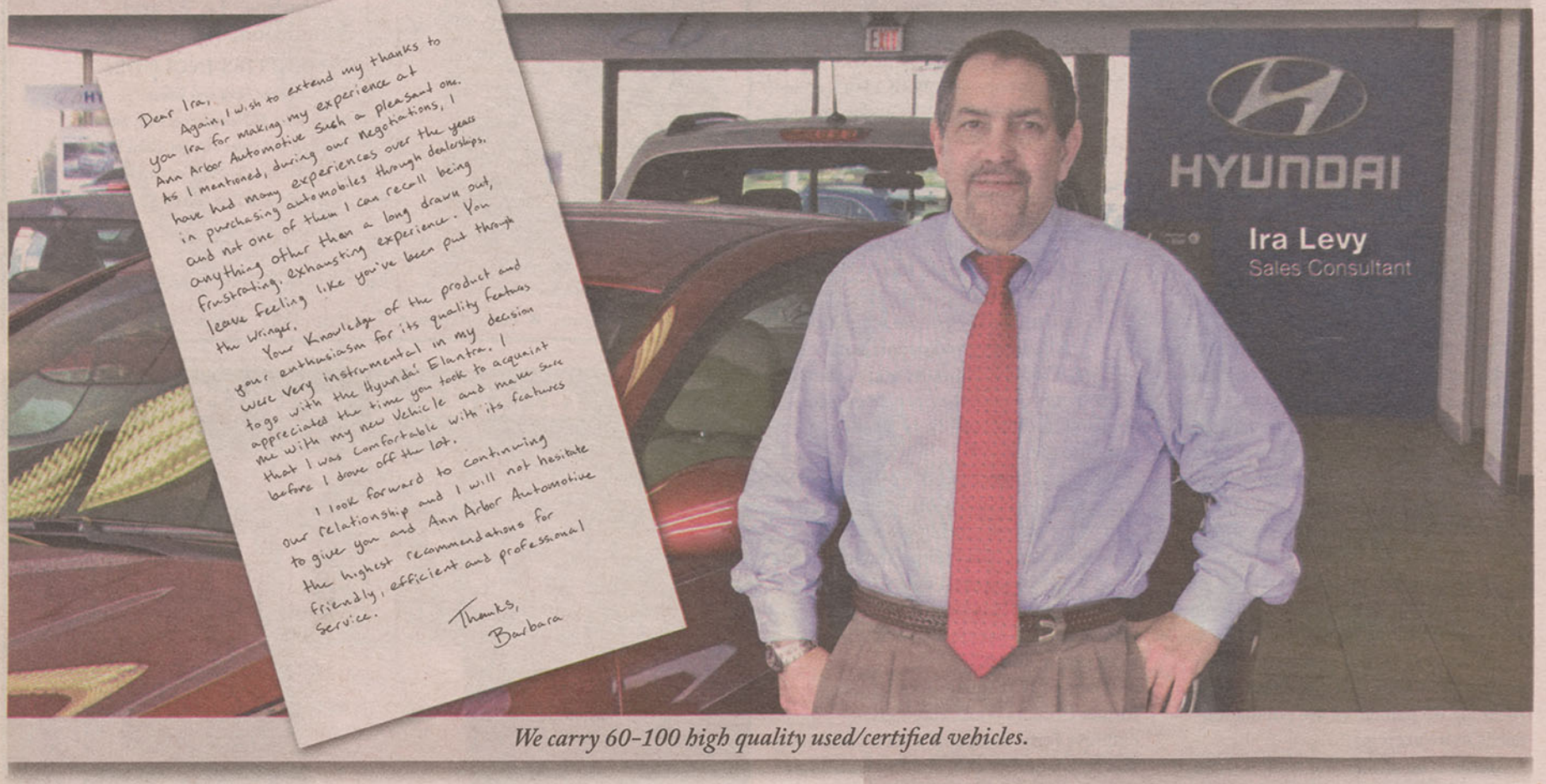
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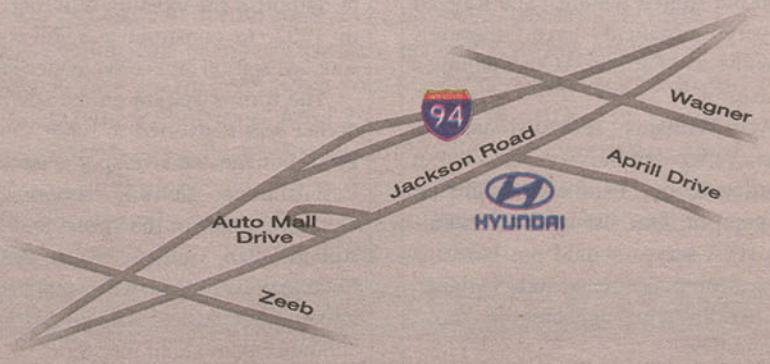
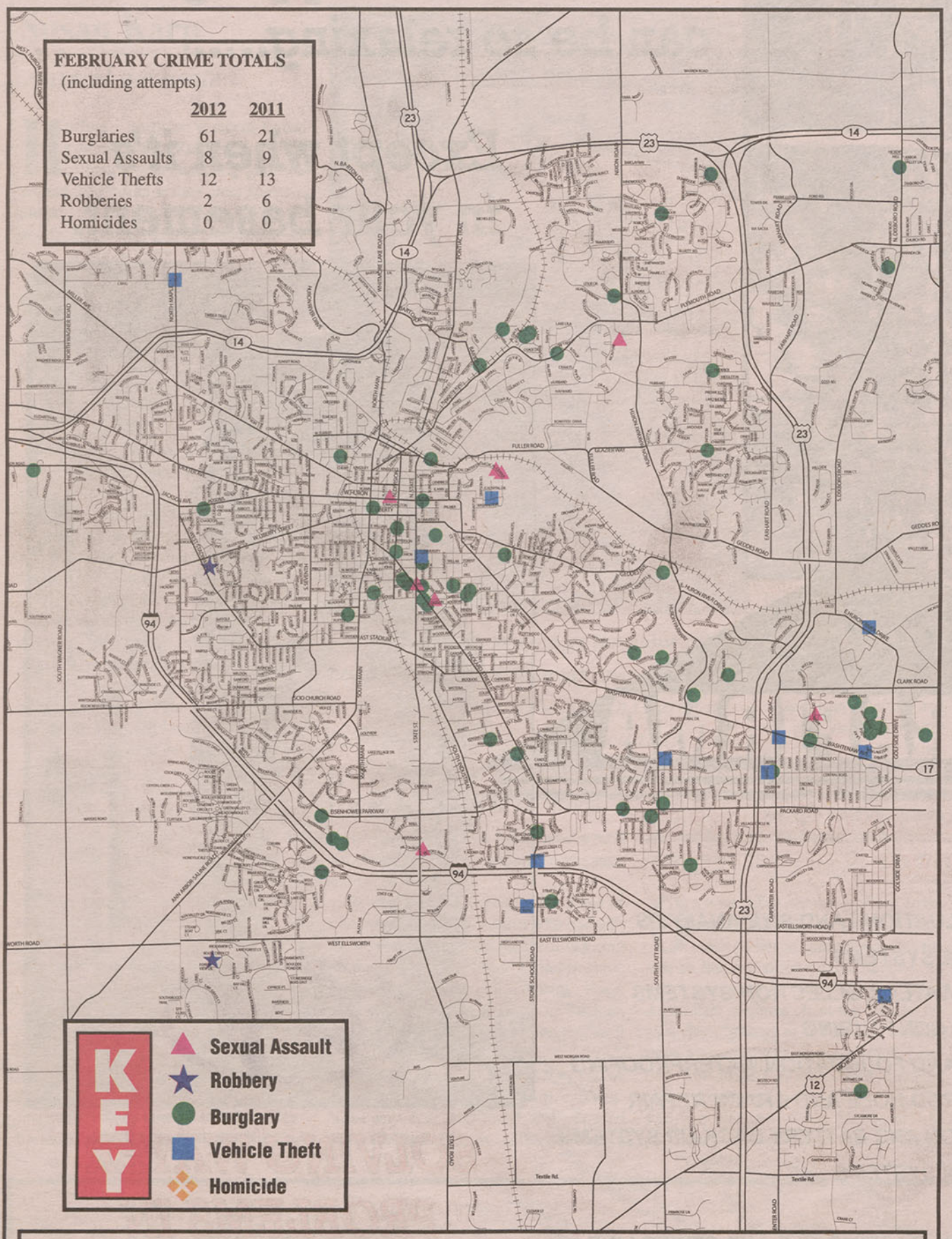


CrimeMap



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **February 2012.** Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments have moved to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. As a result, they no longer are able to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in February 2012 and February 2011.

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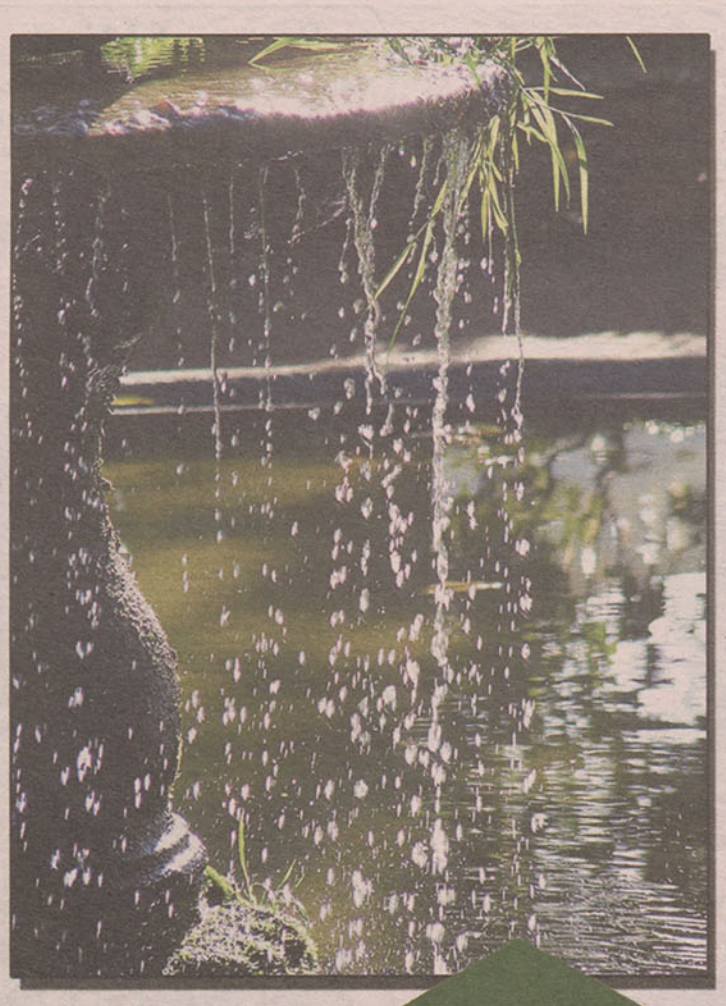

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Susan Karp

Animal advocate

Hosting a party on a recent Friday evening, Susan Karp and her guest of honor wear matching pink leis around their necks as they greet guests at the door. Bubbly drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and fancy pastries line the tables, but the guest of honor can't indulge—because she's a dog. Karp planned the "meet and greet" to help find a home for Petunia, a two-year-old pit bull–terrier mix. Fellow volunteer Jennifer Hart organized the party with Karp at a local pet store. "When Susan gets an idea in her head, watch out!" Hart says. "She works nonstop to get it done."

Karp, fifty-one, is a petite, gregarious woman who says she's always had pets—right now she has two dogs and four cats—and has the "time, energy, and passion" to devote herself to helping animals. "They're vulnerable, they can't speak, they're at the mercy of humans," she says. Now that two of her three children are in college, Karp has more time to devote to the cause, whether it's picking up a litter of unwanted puppies at a Jackson truck stop or helping to pay the vet bill for a sick dog. "The more involved I get, the greater need I see," she says.

As a volunteer at the Humane Society of Huron Valley, she walks shelter dogs and trains them to make them "more adoptable." She also answers customers' questions and helps match them with the right animal. "Adopt instead of shop" is one of her mantras. She's a big proponent of foster homes for animals when adoption isn't possible and she volunteers for HSHV's Trap, Neuter, Return program to help control the population of feral cats.

Her commitment goes far beyond Ann Arbor. Through CHAINED, a nonprofit started by a community nurse who noticed many chained and neglected dogs during her rounds in southwest Detroit, Karp joins volunteers to build or extend fences in low-income Detroit neighborhoods to enhance dogs' lives. She also visits their owners to offer advice and resources, including insulated doghouses and vet services.

ANNE SAVAGE

Petunia was discovered at the home of a hoarder, an elderly woman who had taken in so many animals she couldn't care for them properly. The woman willingly gave up Petunia, and Karp says the dog is responding well to training.

Petunia was discovered at the home of a hoarder, an elderly woman who had taken in so many animals she couldn't care for them properly. "She's a kind-hearted, overwhelmed woman," explains Karp. The woman willingly gave up Petunia, and Karp says the dog is responding well to training.

"Pit bulls get a bad rap, but they can be wonderful family dogs," Karp explains. "Like any dog, they need to be trained and socialized. But the media has done a number on them. It shows when you walk down the aisle at any shelter—half the dogs are pit bulls. And thousands are euthanized. But it doesn't have to be this way."

Karp's animal advocacy has come at a personal price—"I lie awake on cold, snowy nights thinking about the homeless animals," she says. There are an estimated 50,000 in the Detroit area. "So I'll get up and write an email or a letter. Injustices drive me nuts."

When the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners proposed to cut its funding for HSHV by 50 percent, Karp invited the commissioners to tour other shelters to see the dismal conditions Washtenaw County's homeless animals could face if the county were forced to choose an alternate service provider. Commissioner Felicia Brabec accepted Karp's offer, and the pair visited a shelter in Oakland County. Karp says community support for HSHV swelled through word of mouth, and subsequently the board restored most of the funds.

On a weekday afternoon, Karp walks briskly through the quiet, winding roads of her neighborhood near the Arb as her two rescue dogs, Scooter, an "all-American mutt," and Wrangler, a mini Australian shepherd, lead the way. Karp says she's "always on the move," walking dogs and exercising at the YMCA every day. She moved to Ann Arbor eighteen years ago from Charlottesville, Virginia, with her husband—Oren Sagher, a U-M neurosurgeon—and their young family. She says it's been a great place to raise her kids and she's cultivated a "really strong network of women friends."

Karp was raised in the small western Pennsylvania town of Kittanning, where she was the only Jewish student in her high school. Her father ran the family jewelry store, and her mother co-founded the local shelter for battered women and worked as a victim and witness advocate in the courts. She earned a bachelor's degree from Boston University and an MSW from Temple University.

Her career in social work led to a job at University of Virginia Hospital, where friends introduced her to Sagher, a resident physician. Sagher recalls that when they met at a dinner party, he was so exhausted "I kept falling asleep at the table. I think she found that endearing." They were married two years later.

"We are our own individual people," Karp says. Sagher supports her passion and the hours she spends at HSHV. "If she's not home I know where she is," he laughs. Son Ethan, twenty-two, is a U-M student and HSHV volunteer, and daughter Abby, eighteen, volunteers at a humane society in Ohio, where she attends Kenyon College. Daniel, seventeen, is a Community High student and the neighborhood dog walker. "It's true that my love for animals has rubbed off on them!" Karp says.

After Karp had her kids—three in five years—she left social work and stayed home full time. Now she uses her social work skills—"helping, making connections, finding resources"—in her animal welfare work. "Helping has always come naturally to me," she says.

And for those who think her animal advocacy efforts go too far, she smiles and says, "I'm really not a kooky, crazy dog person. My family comes first." However, Karp does allow the animals in her life some luxuries. After Petunia's party, she brought the dog home for one last hurrah before returning her to the kennel where she's being boarded. (Petunia is still up for adoption.) Karp jokes that she and Petunia had a pajama party—and then they both slept on the pullout couch in her basement.

—Shelley Daily

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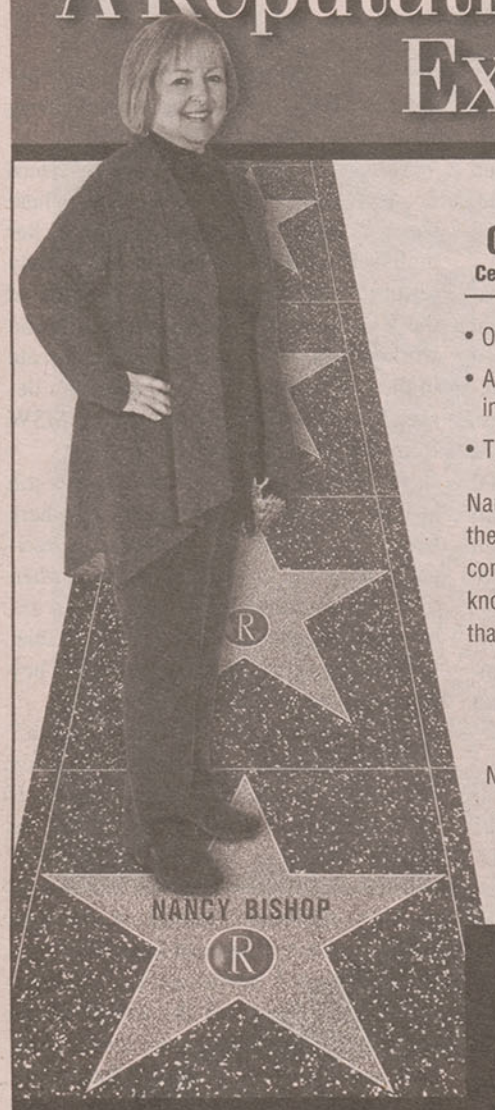

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THE SKYLINE EXPERIMENT

by Jan Schlain

Is Ann Arbor's newest high school better, or just different?

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Drive north on Maple Road past M-14, and you can't miss Skyline High School, a post-modern monument in brick, glass, and steel. After two roundabouts at the freeway ramps, visitors turn in at a third for the main entrance to the school and the principal's office. The buses, and the kids who are old enough to drive, turn in a little sooner, by the tennis courts—unless they come late, in which case they, too, have to use the main entrance, sign in, and talk with the attendant secretary.

I'm in the "21st Century Library"—which has a lot fewer books than the twentieth-century version—when a pleasant female voice comes over the loudspeaker. The morning announcements echo throughout the school, reminding everyone that this is Spirit Week, so all the classes will be shortened to allow time for a pep rally at the end of the day.

In the library, the kids start getting ready to leave—some without waiting for the bell. "Don't go until the bell rings," yells head librarian Sara Duvall. Only a few slip out.

"Want to go to the pep rally together?" a boy asks a girl as they wait by the door. "No one's going to that!" she replies.

The announcements roll on—the Black Student Union meets today, and the Skyline Poetry Slam is coming up. Finally, the announcer reminds the ninth graders that their applications for the magnet programs are due today.

Just in case a visitor missed the other signs that Skyline is Ann Arbor's newest high school—the digital clocks in the hallways, the three-story, atrium-like "Annex," the banners representing the four "small learning communities"—"Diversity," "Equality," "Innovation," and "Integrity"—that announcement should eliminate any doubt.

"Magnets are probably the one thing that significantly changes what we are," says math department chair Dan Neaton. The four magnet programs—business, engineering, communications, and health—together enroll about 400 of Skyline's 1,600 students. "The student starts some courses in sophomore year, more in the junior year, internship in your senior year—that's unique in Ann Arbor," Neaton says.

Neaton has been teaching in Ann Arbor for thirty-six years, first at Clague, then Huron, and most recently Community. He volunteered for the committee to plan Skyline in 2005. But he isn't bragging—he doesn't teach a magnet himself. And he doesn't even mention that he championed another of Skyline's educational experiments, mastery learning.

Its teachers and administrators say that Skyline is better than Pioneer or Huron. Not because it is newer or has better equipment or more windows. It's about the people, and how they interact.

Jeff Bradley, who started the science magnet, returns the compliment: "Mastery is what makes Skyline different," Bradley says. "In the old days, if the kids failed, they were gone. You hope they graduated. If they failed a test, they moved on. In here, if you fail a test, you didn't achieve mastery … [you tell yourself] 'OK, I have to try it again,' or 'I better study more.' "

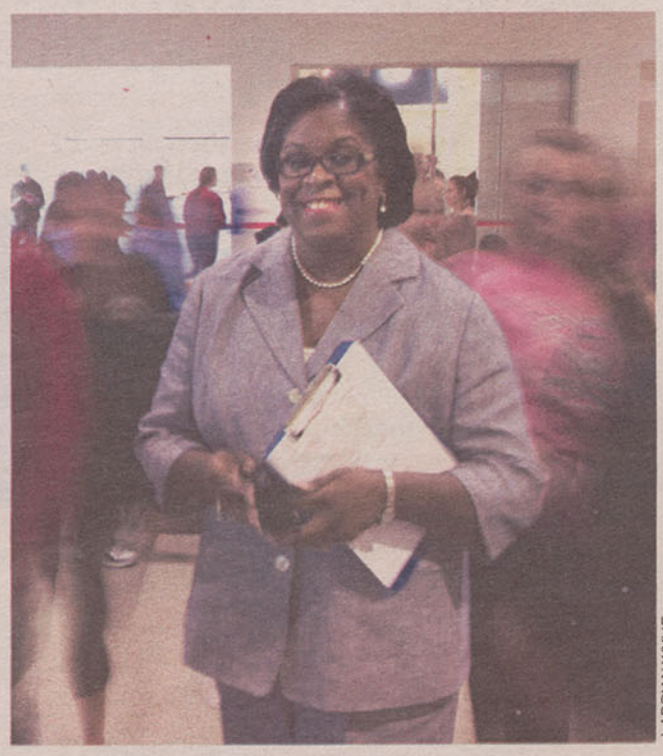
I already knew about mastery learning—senior Johanna Glogower had explained it to me. "In order for a student to get credit in a class, they have to get at least eighty percent on every unit chapter test," Glogower said. "If they get below that, they have to do extra work to get caught up. [It's based on the premise] that everyone can learn, but we all learn at different paces, and so instead of having time the set variable, we have mastery the set variable."

She also filled me in on Skyline's three-term schedule: "We have five classes each trimester, which is less than the other schools, because usually in a semester you have a seventh hour, so you're taking seven classes," Glogower explained. "What's so great is that our classes are actually seventy-two minutes long, each—which really helps as far as an introduction to a new topic."

Glogower lives in the Huron High district, but won a lottery to go to Skyline (she takes the AATA bus). When she started in the fall of 2008, her fellow ninth-graders were the only students in the school. "Half the classrooms were closed," she recalls. "It was the biggest deal if you got to go up to the fourth floor."

The class of 2012 started all the clubs and teams, and starred in all the plays. Glogower has been yearbook editor every year. And this June, she and her classmates will become Skyline's first graduates. As they go on to college and out into the world, how they do will be the first test of Skyline's educational experiments.

Mastery learning, trimesters, small learning communities, magnet programs—Skyline's monumental building houses a flock of educational innovations. "If we're not taking any risks," asks principal Sulura Jackson (below), "how will the child understand" it's OK to do the same?—by, for example, taking an AP class.



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THE SKYLINE EXPERIMENT

their background or socioeconomic state or family dynamic, is to know that you care," says Sulura Jackson, Skyline's powerhouse principal. It's essential to have faith in their ability to learn, she says, to "believe that they can do this."

I was told Jackson was wary of the press after AnnArbor.com wrote about dress code violations and an off-campus fight involving Skyline students. But once we meet in her office, she graciously spends two hours discussing those stories and explaining her vision for the school she's headed since before it opened (she was hired away from a principal's job in Farmington in 2006).

The fight, she explains, was "between a Muslim family and a black family, right down here [at the public housing complex] on North Maple. Nobody paid attention to the fact that they had been in the same school all day. And nothing happened in school. Because in this environment it's not tolerated, and it's inappropriate."

After she ordered some girls who wore sexy outfits to school to change, Jackson says, she called an assembly and told the kids, "Your mindset is based on how you look. So if you look like you're going to the park, you're probably going to act like you're going to the park … When you have on appropriate attire for school, the mindset is, 'I am going to school.' And there are certain things you do at school, and certain things you don't do at school.

"If you have on a really, really short skirt, I'll get a complaint that a boy is looking under your skirt. And when he doesn't have far to look—it was making my male teachers uncomfortable. They are fifteen-year-old girls. They sit in the desks, and they forget, and this male teacher can't look down, because he's afraid. That disrupts the learning environment.

"We have the T-shirt for the 'cleavage girls,' " she adds. The oversized shirt announces, "Tomorrow I will dress for success." Says Jackson, "I've used it at every school"—before Farmington, she was principal of Detroit's Pershing High and a vice principal at Cass Tech. "The [students] are big, but they're still children. Some things need to be kept black and white.

"I'm just a bottom-line person," Jackson says. "You don't have to sugarcoat it for me. As a matter of fact, I think you're wasting my time when you sugarcoat it." She's just as direct with Skyline's students. "Some are afraid to take the AP [advanced placement] classes. They say, 'My sister struggled … Oh it's just so hard.' They just don't try it.

"Well, if we're not taking any risks and showing them that it is OK for us even to fail, then how will the child understand that if you're going to fail anywhere, high school is the best place to do it?"

When Jackson and her staff planned Skyline, they wanted to start over, to think about high school education differently. Even the three Rs changed: at Skyline they

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

are relationship, rigor, and relevance.

As several teachers told me, using exactly the same words, "relationship comes first." Jackson says that research shows that one reason students don't learn is that they don't feel connected to anything or anyone in school. "That's where the SLCs come in," she says, "the small learning communities."

"Every SLC has freshmen through seniors," special ed teacher Suzanne Dickey tells me later. "Once you come in as a freshman in Integrity, you're in Integrity the whole time. That student will mainly have Integrity teachers, and Diversity, because those are the two on the third floor. The two other SLCs, Innovation and Equality, are on the fourth floor."

Jackson prides herself on keeping students in school. So far, she says, she hasn't lost anyone for academic reasons, though one student dropped out last year after being charged with a disciplinary violation. But one of the downsides of this twenty-first-century school is that it can be hard to keep staff. The school hires energetic, outside-the-box teachers, but "as soon as you get them trained, they get the urge to move on," Jackson says.

Last year, Skyline lost two counselors at a crucial time for the seniors—just as they were preparing to apply to colleges. "That was rough on some of the kids," says Jackson. The principal ended up writing several students' recommendations herself.

"I built this," says Jeff Bradley with a smile. "It was an empty space when I came—three adjoining classrooms. I pretty much could design it the way I wanted it."

Now Bradley, wearing his coat and tie, is sitting in the middle of a fully equipped science lab. "That purple machine right there is called a PCR," he says. "Polymerase chain reaction … basically what it does is it grows your DNA. You take the DNA, you grow it, and you have millions and millions of copies of it." Students are

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Eighty percent of the students in Jeff Bradley's science magnet are girls, and practically all of them want to become doctors.

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testing their own DNA, learning how to recognize patterns and how the knowledge can be applied in science and medicine. Girls outnumber boys about four to one in his magnet, Bradley says, and almost all of them want to become doctors.

"In tenth grade they take 'Principles of Biomedical Science,'" says Bradley, who came to Skyline after twenty-five years at Slauson and now teaches alongside some of his former students. "Eleventh grade is Human Body Systems. Then senior level is Medical Interventions." By the time students reach that level, he says, "they are saying things like, 'I like that diabetes unit. I really want to cure and help people' … or 'I want to go out and be a public health official and solve some of these epidemics that are out there.'"

Dan Neaton, Bradley's colleague in the math department, also has been with Skyline from the beginning. "I was there for the whole thing—the planning and the starting," he recalls. "We had a wide-open playing field. No previous history to restrict us." His contribution was mastery learning—he'd tried it previously at Huron, but it didn't take root there.

Every teacher everywhere wants students to learn the content, Neaton says. The difference is that at Skyline, "we really have woven it into our philosophy and carry it into every course … To me, the number one goal of our school is to bring all kids along."

"Traditional education doesn't fail all kids, but the old model is an industrial age model," adds Duvall, Skyline's librarian. "It sorts out the kids that don't fit," allowing them to fail and drop out. "We can't do that anymore!" Duvall declares. "Right?! No child left behind!"

Lead English teacher Kristal Jaaskelainen is a believer in mastery learning, too—but she says that at first many parents didn't like it. If struggling students got another chance, they wanted to know, why couldn't high achievers also retake tests to get even better grades? Jaaskelainen expressed her response privately in a paper titled, "It doesn't harm your child for another to learn."

A U.P. native who's also lead teacher of the yearbook and assistant girls basketball coach, "Ms. J" is Johanna Glogower's favorite teacher. Glogower also had classes with Neaton, but math is not her thing. In fact, she didn't do so well on one of his algebra tests, at which point, mastery learning came in very handy. She was able to study and review, retake the test, and earn a passing grade.

Jaaskelainen admits that some kids "game" the system—they don't study, knowing they'll be able to retake the test again and again until they reach the "mastery" score of 80 percent. While Neaton allows that "there are definitely refinements to that that need to be made," he also argues that "gaming a B minus is better than gaming a D minus."

Nothing slows the smart kids down,

PHOTOS: J. ADRIAN WYLIE

PHOTOS: J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Senior Johanna Glogower (with lead English teacher Kristal Jaaskelainen) has edited the yearbook since she was a freshman, when the Class of 2012 had the school to themselves. Math department chair Dan Neaton (right) feels good that their test scores landed in between Pioneer's and Huron's.

Neaton says. But for the ones who might get left behind, it's essential to "make a very enabling, encouraging, supporting system, because you have to win at that psychological level before you can get a student to engage … You really have to invest time in creating that [message that], 'Yes, you must, you will, you can.' And then you start pulling people on board, and the whole system works better."

Neaton says that in assessing Skyline's success, his benchmarks are the other comprehensive high schools, because "we basically divided the Huron population and the Pioneer population for Skyline." He says he sees a measurable difference in outcomes, with Skyline kids testing better than their peers at the two older schools in some areas: on the spring 2011 Michigan Merit Exam (MME), Pioneer had the highest average scores in math, reading, and social studies, while Skyline had the highest averages in sciences and writing, with Huron trailing in all five.

Averages don't reveal how well schools do by their weakest students—the ones mastery learning is designed to help. For that, a better measure is the percentage whose knowledge is rated as "proficient" or "advanced" on the MME. In 2011, Huron had the lowest percentage of students achieving proficiency in all five subject areas; Pioneer had the highest percentage achieving proficiency in two areas, and Skyline in three. Most of the differences between Pioneer and Skyline were small—one or two percentage points—except for math, where Pioneer led Skyline by six points and Huron by eight.

In the end, Neaton says, "I would say we are all comparable. They're all Ann Arbor kids." He feels good, with Skyline's first graduating class, to have landed in the middle.

Jackson says she's concerned that people might look at those numbers and assume, "OK, Skyline is a better school than Huron, but not as good as Pioneer"—without looking at the demographic makeup of the three schools' student bodies and how that might affect the results. At Skyline, she says, "We seriously disaggregated that data to drill down to … where were our strengths, and where were our children weak consistently? Where were my lowest-achieving kids? My highest-achieving kids—where were they weak?" They're using that information, she says, to tweak the curriculum and teaching methods.

"The scores were good," the principal says. "We'd like for them to go to great. We'd like to show—and this is our goal—that if you teach for mastery, you can get all kids there … [and] if I get all of them there, they're going to push the ceiling up."

As her first class graduates, Jackson is thinking about her next step. Though she's worked in Ann Arbor for six years, she remains deeply attached to Detroit—her church and much of her family are there. "Detroit is home," she says.

While she hasn't made any specific plans, something is telling her to move on. "I can't quite put my finger on it," she says, but "I think it's about time for a change." She says she has already gotten several job offers and has turned them down. "The ultimate challenge to me would be to do what we've done here on a larger scale," she says. "Where that might be, I don't know." ■

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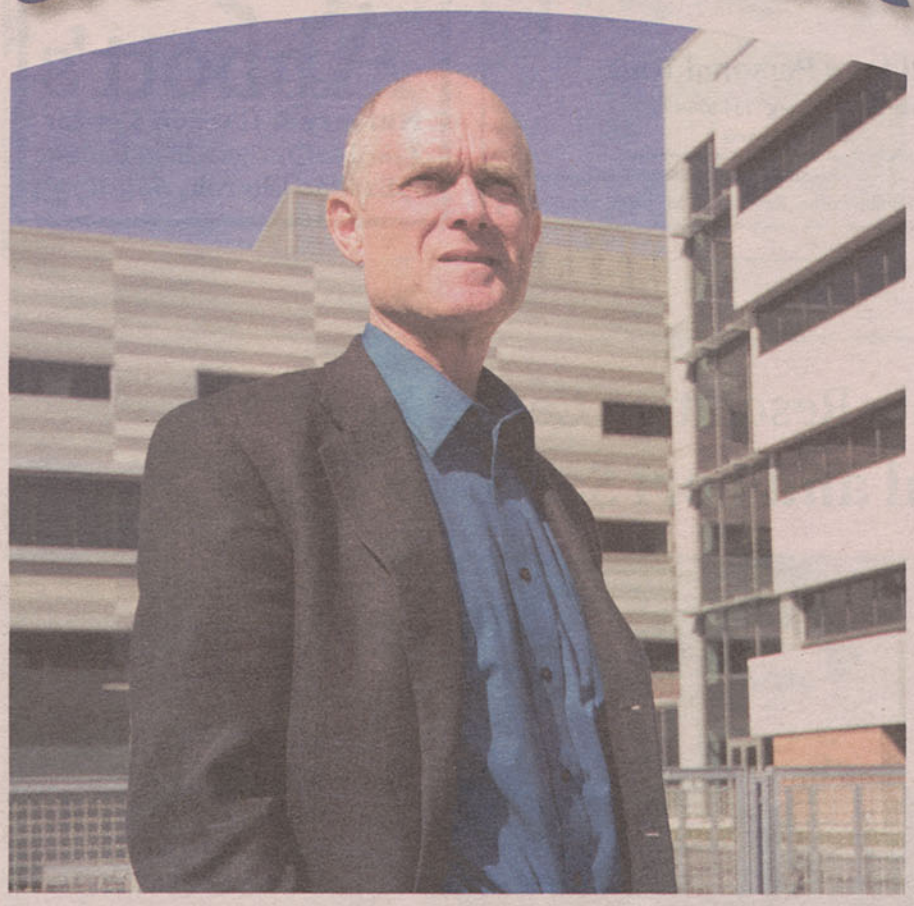

The city's lost almost a third of its workforce. How did that work out for us—and for them?

by James Leonard

"When I was elected, I could see that the city had built up too many employees in the '90s," says mayor John Hieftje. "Take safety services. The police had more officers in 2000 than they did in 1991, and this was after the university had started its own police department. And that's just one example from across the whole city. I recognized that this was an unsustainable level going forward."

City council agreed, and soon after Hieftje took office in 2000, Ann Arbor started shrinking its government. The mayor takes credit for having the idea, but gives former city administrator Roger Fraser credit for implementing it: "Roger did what council told him to do, and he did a good job."

Fraser certainly did a thorough job. From 2001 to 2008, the city went from 1,005 to 823 full-time positions, an 18 percent reduction. Then the economy crashed, taking property tax revenues down with it. By the start of 2012, the number of "full time equivalents" (FTEs) fell to 706. That's 299 fewer positions, or 30 percent of the city's staff, in a decade.

In raw numbers, almost every department lost, but some lost more than others. The police department went from 244 to 164 positions, 33 percent of its FTEs, and fire went from 126 to eighty-two, a 35 percent drop. But while the public safety departments lost the biggest numbers, others lost even more in percentage terms. Planning and development went from thirty-five positions to twenty-two, down 37 percent. Parks and recreation dropped from thirty-five FTEs to twenty, a 43 percent loss. Wastewater treatment shrank 44 percent, from sixty-three jobs to thirty-five.

The mayor and city council cut their own staff by 50 percent—but they had only 1.5 FTEs to begin with. Hardest hit of all were procurement and risk management. With most procurement now handled by the operating units, that department was all but eliminated, shrinking from six full-timers to one. And risk management *was* eliminated, going from four full-timers to one part-timer working under the city's chief financial officer.

The staff cuts let the city balance its budget despite soaring health care and retirement costs and falling state and federal funding. Unlike Flint, Detroit, and even, Hieftje suggests, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor is in no danger of being taken over by a state emergency manager.

Even with 30 percent fewer employees, the snow still gets plowed, the grass still gets mowed, and the phones still get answered. The snow gets deeper, the grass grows longer, and some calls may go to voicemail—but overall, it's amazing how little impact the cuts have had on Ann Arborites' lives.

After examinations of police and fire staffing last year (Observer, May and December 2011), this story looks at how the changes played out for a couple of less familiar but no less necessary city services: field operations and planning. Both gained responsibilities even as they lost employees, forcing them to do more with less. And they did—but at what cost?

When mayor John Hieftje (top) was elected in 2000, he says, "I recognized that [city staffing was at] an unsustainable level going forward." While city council ordered the cuts, it was people like sanitary sewers supervisor Dan Wooden (left, above) who made them work. One day last winter, Wooden recalls, his crews started out plowing snow, found a broken water main, fixed it, "and ended that day back on the plows."

"When things go to hell," says sanitary sewers supervisor Dan Wooden, "I can grab guys, because we all work together. Like when we were plowing snow one day because they needed us to, and we found a twelve-inch water-main break on Packard. So I grabbed six guys and did the repairs, and we ended that day back on the plows."

That flexibility is a big part of how field operations has kept the city's infrastructure functioning even as its workforce shrank. "We're responsible for everything between the edge of one sidewalk to the other," says manager Craig Hupy. "We maintain the water and the sanitary sewers, the street trees, the street lights, the traffic control signals, and we do street maintenance and the fiber optics for some of our core services—network connectivity, email, and traffic signals. We maintain the parks and do all the mowing of parks and city grounds. And we do trash collection, residential and downtown."

"We used to have twenty job descriptions," says field services manager Craig Hupy. "Now we have three."

Matt Warba, Hupy's assistant, oversaw the consolidation of field services over the last decade. With 124 FTEs, field services now handles most of the tasks formerly done by 380 people in four separate departments. How did they do it? "It came down to efficiencies," says Hupy. "Doing things better and smarter."

Part of better and smarter meant retraining employees to do each other's jobs. "We used to have twenty job descriptions," says Hupy. "We now have three, and this has allowed us to be more flexible. Before, we staffed to cover the highs. Now we staff for the average, and when a work area has a peak demand, we reassign"—like the day Dan Wooden's crew went from plowing to water-main repair, then back to plowing.

Management jobs also merged. "In parks operations, there were three managers," says Warba. "Now there's one, and he's a general manager for all the facilities. Likewise, water distribution and wastewater collection has reduced one supervisor each."

New technology helped. Now that trash, recycling, and compostables are collected from wheeled curb carts by trucks with automated arms, "we've been able to cut one-seventh of the drivers and do the job quicker," Warba says. All this was done with the cooperation of employees and their unions. "AFSCME was always part of the process," Warba points out. "We couldn't have done it without them."

Hupy and Warba say that even with fewer full-timers they're getting everything done as quickly as before or more quickly—except for the parks. When the mowing cycle stretched from fourteen to nineteen days and a midyear budget ad-

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justment eliminated trimming, "we heard about it," Warba says. When trimming was restored last year, "by and large, the phone calls dropped off"—and this year, they're going back to a fourteen-day mowing cycle.

They heard about it two years ago, too, when city council eliminated street pickups of fall leaves. Residents now must compost leaves themselves or load them into a compost cart for pickup.

"The cost savings is over $200,000 a year," says Hupy. "Did it go without flaws? Heck, no! We were flooded with calls for missed pickups, and it turned out some drivers weren't going on some private streets. But this year they went where they were supposed to go, and things went far smoother."

Both Wooden and field operations supervisor Mark Cozart say they themselves like the changes but know some people who didn't.

How did all these changes affect the people on the front lines? Both Wooden and field operations supervisor Mark Cozart say they themselves like the changes but know some people who didn't.

"We had quite a few retire," remembers Wooden, who started in 2007. "Some of the older guys, they were a tight group, and there was some nostalgia there."

"For the most part everyone stepped up to keep service up," says Cozart, who began in 2005. "We were still expected to do the same as before, and we did our best. We became more efficient and effective because we had to be. There was some resistance at first. People become set in their ways."

"Technology has changed the job a lot," Wooden says. "In some cases, it's ten times better. And technology has allowed us to do some things in half the time. For example, when we needed to look up the work history for a sewer main or fire hydrant in the past, we had to dig through postcard-type files. Now we can simply select it in our city works database [where] the work history is listed electronically, whether we are in the office or in our trucks in the field."

Though job consolidation and retraining dismayed some employees, it was a path up for others. "I rose up," says Cozart, who used to be Wooden's assistant in sanitary sewers. "They don't always promote from within, but it's encouraged."

"It's busy but that's good," says Wooden. "The day goes by more quickly because there's never an end of things to do."

Field operations takes care of the city as it is now. Planning takes care of the city as it will be. Its staff advises the planning commission and city council on development, redevelopment, improvements, and preservation. And though development slowed down with the economic crash, they've still got plenty to do. When the building department was eliminated, planning took over most of its work.

"We're working a lot harder, absolutely," says one planner who asked not to be named. "Data analysis has suffered, and there's not as much long-term planning done as should be."

"We're still getting everything done," says another planner, who also requested anonymity. "The difference is in the quality. It's not as thorough and in-depth as it used to be."

While neither planner has gotten complaints about the quality of the city's planning efforts, they have heard about an easier-to-assess cutback: "People hate not getting a person on the first ring when they call," the second planner says. "And if you don't call back in one minute … !"

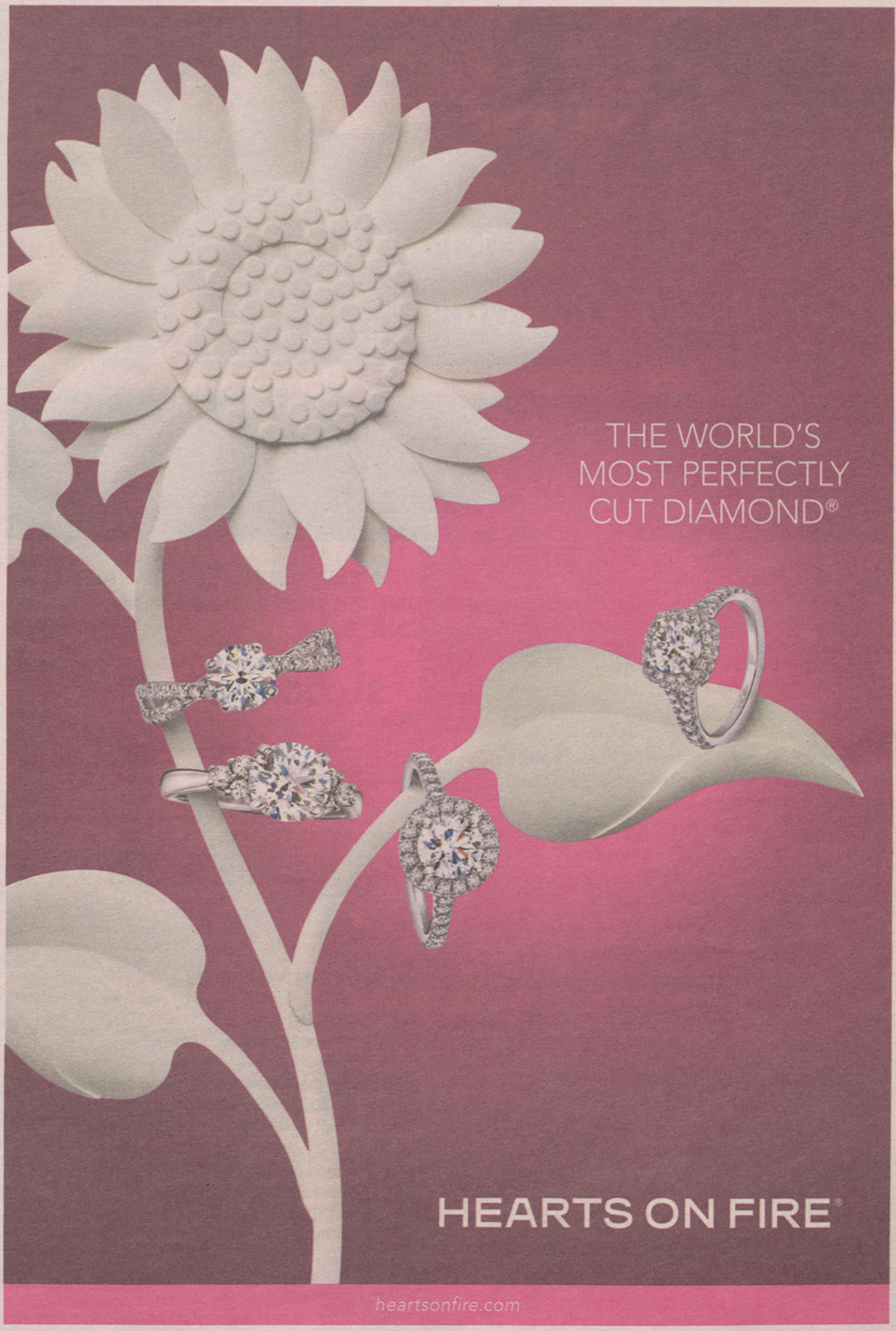
That's not news to planning manager Wendy Rampson. "Last week someone called who couldn't reach anyone, and they left an angry message," says Rampson. "And the reason was that we were all in a meeting together, and there was no one left to give them an immediate response.

"When I started in planning in 1984, we were right in the middle of the office-building boom," Rampson remembers. "It was happening outside Briarwood and on the perimeter, and we were very, very busy. It felt like we didn't have enough people then—and now it feels the same."

When she started, "we had a director, an assistant, five professional planners, and two administrative staff who knew everything," Rampson recalls. "The big change for us came when we reorganized seven years ago, and many of the building department's responsibilities became our responsibilities.

"The zoning administrator was in the building department, but when that person retired, those tasks came to planning but the FTE was eliminated. Same thing with code enforcement. Some responsibilities went to community standards in the police department, but the rest came to planning with no FTE attached. Same thing with historical preservation. When that person retired, they were replaced with a three-quarters-time person, then when that person retired, the job was folded into planning with no additional staff. And in our most recent cuts two years ago, we had to cut two support staff, and zoning appeals were spread among the rest of the staff."

Rampson's workforce now consists of "me, five professional planners, and one administrative staff. That's three less bodies with the work of four bodies added in." She understands why. "There was a conscious effort to reduce the legacy costs [of pensions and benefits] into the future." And she recognizes that planning isn't anywhere near as busy as it once was. "We used to go to two in the morning at planning meetings because there was so much to get through. And in the last year we



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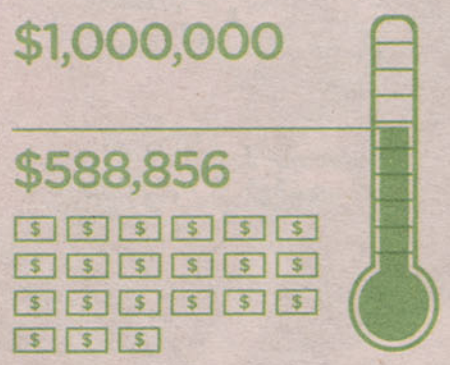

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canceled five meetings because we had no items to discuss."

But she still feels the effects. "Our service a couple years ago wasn't great. We've spent the last couple of years improving the process because the expectation of citizens is still pretty high. But we struggle to be efficient, and the biggest impact has been that while we've been able to keep up the status quo day to day, we do not have the time to do outreach or long-range planning."

And there's the effect on staff morale. "They take things personally when people are upset. But mostly we laugh and eat a lot" to handle the stress.

"People here complain, but that's pretty universal," says one of the anonymous planners. "Most people here are grateful to have a job. I hear the same thing every day: 'At least I have a job to complain about!'"

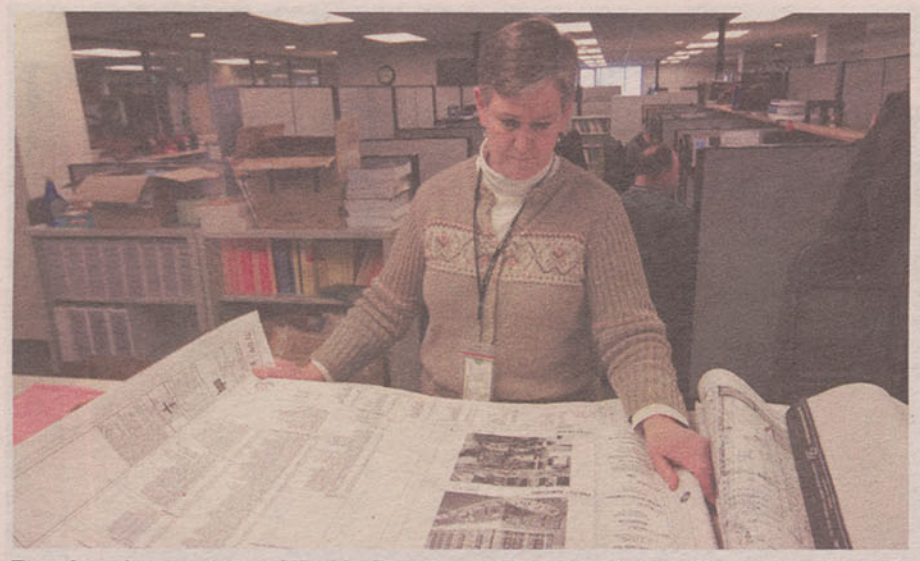
Mayor Hieftje seems to get it. "Things shrank, so people are working harder now because they have more work to do. We were having some problems in the beginning. We're getting far fewer complaints now, because service was slower and now it's better."

And the mayor is more convinced than ever that cuts were needed. "Our general fund expenses were $69 million in 2000. Now they're $64 million, and that $5 million drop is in state revenue sharing. If we hadn't cut, we'd be in pretty rough shape now."

"Our total budget for last year's general fund expenses was $80.6 million," clarifies Tom Crawford, the city's chief financial officer. "John is adjusting for consistent operations. For example, we had solid waste in the general fund in 2000, and now it's in its own fund. When I talk to the community, I say our budget is down if you adjust for inflation."

But if the staff is down 30 percent, why has the budget gone up at all? "The cost for employees has gone up while the number of employees has gone down," says Crawford. "That's a key driver. Having three hundred fewer employees means a citywide saving of about $30 million a year, but we've also had increased costs. In 2001, the city paid $43.6 million in payroll. In 2012, it's $48.5 million. In 2001, the city was paying zero dollars toward pensions. Today we're paying $10 million," due to rising numbers of retirees and shrinking investment returns. "In 2001, health care and retiree health care was $6 million," Crawford adds. "Now we're contributing $15 million." And if the city hadn't cut its workforce, those numbers would be that much greater.

The ultimate compliment for the city's reorganization came when two of its architects moved on to bigger jobs last year. Roger Fraser was hired to run the state's



For planning manager Wendy Rampson, the big change came seven years ago, when "many of the building department's responsibilities became our responsibilities." Planning inherited the work of four building staffers—and then lost three people of its own.

emergency manager program, and former public services administrator Sue McCormick now heads the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (see box, below).

"Ann Arbor has done a remarkable job of reducing expenses to meet revenues, and it's had a minimal impact on services," says Fraser's successor, Steve Powers. "We're just about right now, not too skinny, not too big. The last ten years have made the city better conditioned and more muscular."

But now, Powers says, "it's time to take a break from reduction. I don't see the number of employees changing in the next five years unless council, supported by the public, decides to change things."

That would be fine with field operations. "What I want is more funding," says Craig Hupy. "I don't see the need to add more bodies." He'd rather see more capital investment in the city's roads, sidewalks, water and sewer mains, and parks—the aging infrastructure that his hard-working crews maintain.

"Though if we added more bodies, it would allow city parks to look more like U-M parks," suggests Warba. "Things would look snappier."

Hupy isn't interested in going there. "Those are policy decisions," he tells his second-in-command. "We do what council tells us to do." ■

Sue McCormick's Challenge

MARK BIALEK

Sue McCormick at Ann Arbor's wastewater plant in 2009. After planning its overhaul—the costliest city construction project ever—the former public services administrator is now tackling an even tougher job: fixing Detroit's vast and mismanaged water and sewer system.

While Ann Arbor started shrinking its staff more than ten years ago, Detroit resisted making cuts. Now almost out of cash, the city faces either an onerous consent decree or an outright takeover by a state emergency manager. So why would Sue McCormick leave her secure job as Ann Arbor's public services administrator to run the scandal-plagued Detroit Water and Sewerage Department?

"Because it's the biggest challenge in the state," McCormick says in a phone call between meetings. "This system is ten times the size of Ann Arbor's. We serve roughly four million people with a $900 million annual budget. We serve the city and all the way west to Ypsilanti and all the way north to Flint."

McCormick's other challenges include a bloated and inefficient staff, decades of noncompliance with the Clean Water Act, and a federal indictment hanging over the former director. Last fall, federal judge Sean Cox ordered the department to clean up its act—and allowed it to do so by granting its yet-to-be-hired new director extraordinary powers. Those powers are what changed McCormick's mind last November.

McCormick says her plan for Detroit is "to do what we did in Ann Arbor but at a much larger scale … In Ann Arbor, there were twenty job classifications in field services, and there are 156 job classifications here—so you can see there's a lot of opportunities to find efficiencies."

She has already eliminated 550 staff positions. Now, she's working to "get everybody to understand that we need to move together in the same direction.

"I've been meeting with front-line employees every week, and walking through their jobs with them. Our front-line employees are embarrassed by how things have been. I've met about five, six hundred people so far, and I'm hearing consistently they're ready to change, and they want to regain our respect." —*J.L.*

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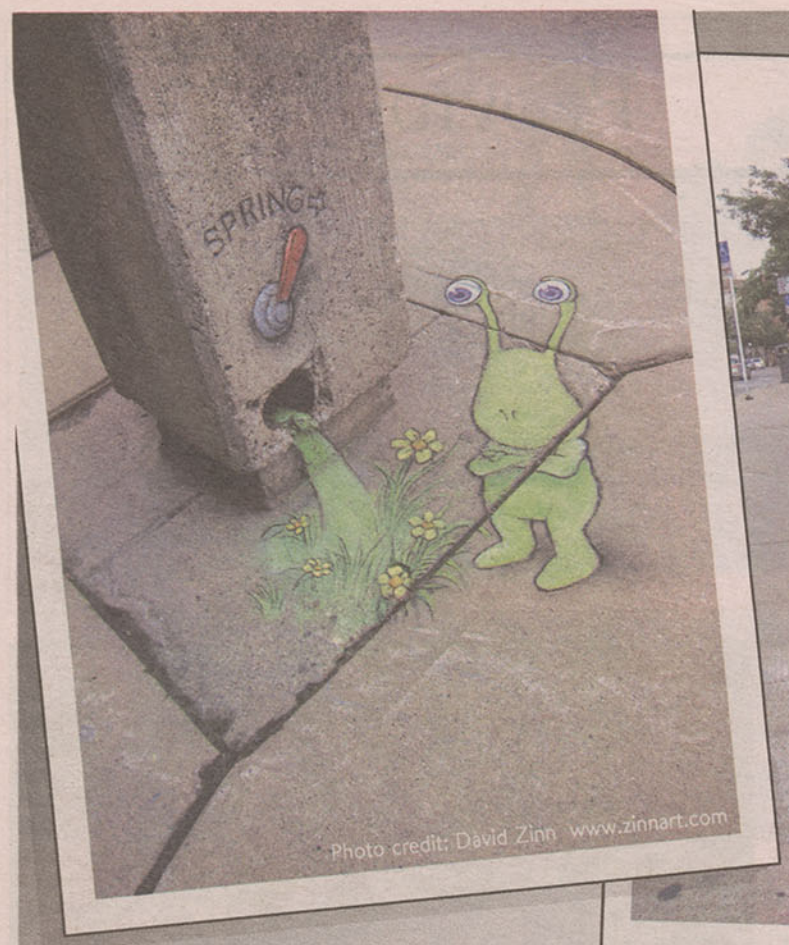

Looking Down to Cheer Up:

Sluggo sightings on the streets where you live

Are you one of the growing number of people who claim to have seen a green stalk-eyed creature who occupies empty stoops, peers up from holes in the ground that don't exist, and walks through apparitional doors? You're not alone. Although not much is known about this fair-weather visitor, multiple eyewitnesses have confirmed that he goes by the name of Sluggo and keeps company with a flying pig, a solitaire-playing rabbit, and several other eccentric characters. He has been spotted by keen-eyed Ann Arborites loitering at Kerrytown, sunning on the Diag, and dining al fresco on Main Street. Sluggo never stays in one place for very long; one April shower or splash from a garden hose and he disappears, re-emerging under the safety of an awning or awaiting the return of sunnier skies.

This spring, more than flowers will be popping up; keep your eyes trained to the ground, and you may catch a glimpse of this mysterious creature and his curious companions.

Left: *Sluggo under the awning of Peaceable Kingdom on Main Street – one of the few locations where he has also been known to appear indoors!*

Right: *Sluggo and his flying pig out for a walk on Liberty Street.*

Left: A celebratory incident observed at Bach School.

Right: A surprise birthday party on Main Street.

Sluggo sightings, clockwise from upper left: Sluggo raking leaves on the Old West Side, hiding behind a salt shaker at Café Zola, emerging from the walkway at Ingalls Mall, waiting for a movie to start at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, and dining al fresco outside the Black Pearl.

For the latest Sluggo sightings (or to report your own), visit **sluggoonthestreet.tumblr.com** or "like" him at **www.facebook.com/sluggoonthestreet.**

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CONNECTING WILLIAM STREET

THE DDA THINKS BIG. *by* Natalie Burg

The orange construction cones and earthmovers on the corner of Washington and First are a very big deal. Construction is finally under way on the $30 million Ann Arbor City Apartments—eleven years after the city first requested proposals to redevelop the corner.

The city also wants to sell a lot it owns across from the library at Fifth Avenue and William. But four years ago, it walked away from a plan to redevelop the former site of the Ann Arbor YMCA—and into a $30 million lawsuit. Though the suit was thrown out by a federal judge, it's still on appeal; in January, city attorney Steven Postema was in Cincinnati to argue the city's case before the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. With an opinion pending, that saga is now entering its ninth year.

Next door to the library, work is wrapping up on the city's first underground parking structure. But there, too, city council wanted much more. Plans to build a hotel and convention center on top of the structure were debated for years, only to be killed once it became clear that the center would need public subsidies.

Why is it so hard to redevelop the city's prime downtown real estate? The Downtown Development Authority thinks it knows the answer—and has been working for more than a year to get the chance to try its solution.

The redevelopment at Washington and First is a win-win. But it almost didn't happen.

Even before it closed a decrepit parking structure there in 2006, the city invited developers to submit proposals for the site. It chose a plan for a huge multiuse complex stretching from Washington to Liberty, only to see it fall apart when nearby property owners refused to sell. Then the smaller apartment plan was caught up in the real estate crash. But the city gave the developer more time, and last fall Farmington Hills–based Village Green bought the site for $3.2 million. The building will include 155 rental units and a 244-space parking garage. Once it's done, the city will buy the garage for $9 million, then turn it over to the DDA to operate.

"That asset will generate its own revenue stream" in parking fees, says city CFO Tom Crawford. In addition, he notes, Village Green will pay property taxes. The site "was not on the tax rolls before, and it is now."

The city would like more such happy endings—and fewer disasters like the YMCA lot. The roots of that debacle stretch back to 1989, when the city guaranteed a loan to expand the Y's single-room-occupancy hotel. In exchange, it got first right of refusal to buy the building—which it did when the Y moved out in 2003.

The plan was to continue to operate the 100 small rooms as affordable housing—but then the heating system failed. The city closed the hotel, found other places for the residents, and put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to redevelop the site. The RFP called for a project that would both repay the city's $3.5 million investment *and* replace the affordable housing.

MARK BIALEK

"People want to see progress," says DDA board member Joan Lowenstein (with staffer Amber Miller). After one-at-a-time efforts to redevelop city-owned property failed, the group is pushing a multi-site plan.

Novi-based HDC, LLC promised to do both—but never delivered. In its lawsuit, HDC claims to have invested $2 million in architectural and engineering fees, feasibility studies, and other expenditures, in addition to jumping through all of the bureaucratic hoops necessary to secure more than $18.5 million in MSHDA tax credits and another $7.5 million in state brownfield redevelopment tax credits. But as the HDC's plans changed, and its requests for additional funding mounted, the city terminated its option to buy the site in 2007.

Earlier RFPs for the former city maintenance garage on Washington and for the "Kline's lot" at William and Ashley also went nowhere. Given that history, developers may be skeptical of the city's latest scheme to redevelop the Fifth Avenue sites and three others nearby. But that's where the DDA thinks it can do better.

"The DDA can do this a little differently," says Amber Miller, the authority's planning and research specialist. "What we were hearing from developers from previous RFP processes was that there were vague RFPs. A lot of city planning has gotten us to the point where we have great, broad goals for our downtown, but there are a lot of uses that fit within those broader goals." That led to developers investing a lot of time and resources into proposals without knowing for sure what city council would be looking for when it evaluated them. The plans would then become ensnared in politics.

Miller thinks part of the problem was that the city has many priorities but looks at only one project at a time—with the result that "there is a tendency to want to fit all goals into one site." The "Connecting William Street" review will look at the Fifth Avenue sites, the Kline's lot, and two others nearby: the ground floor of the Fourth and William parking structure and the small parking lot next door to Palio restaurant. The hope, says Miller, is that "by looking at five sites together, we can find something that is more practical and achievable."

This being Ann Arbor, the process started by inviting public input. "Connecting William Street is an effort to capture the community's priorities and strategies for five city properties," says DDA executive director Susan Pollay. "This is a great time to be encouraging community feedback, as this section of William Street has many things taking place at this point."

"Now that we're coming out of the recession, people want to see progress," adds DDA board member Joan Lowenstein. "This is a pretty small area of the downtown that isn't overwhelming for people to consider."

In fact, it's smaller than the DDA wanted. After a year of negotiations, a joint city-DDA committee recommended a broader plan that covered more of downtown and twice as many sites. But when that proposal came before council last April, it was curtailed to the smaller area—over the objections of the councilmembers who'd negotiated the agreement, Christopher Taylor and Carsten Hohnke.

"My colleagues disagreed with me" on the scope of the project, says Taylor, "but I'm looking forward to what the DDA brings to us to consider."

"I think it was kind of mutually agreed upon that we would narrow this down to something that truly is doable," says Lowenstein diplomatically.

"Our mission is to see that there is progressive development within the downtown," Lowenstein explains. In the past, "we have focused on providing the infrastructure … that would enable developers to come in, but it hasn't really happened in the way that we would want. This is a way for us to make that more easily happen.

"There is enthusiasm, and I think there are a lot of expectations" for the study, Lowenstein says. "But the way our budget is going, and, as a result of our negotiations with the city [increasing transfers to the general fund], we don't have very much money to do the projects. We did get a federal grant for this project, so people in the DDA are excited to have some money to do any type of project at all."

With that $65,000 grant, plus $20,000 from its own funds and $15,000 worth of staff time, the DDA hopes to not only assess priorities, but also hire a "land use economist" to evaluate the sites' value and the feasibility of potential uses. The group won't make any decisions—if projects result, they'll still go through the normal planning review and city council debate. But this time, at least, the city should start with a better idea of what's possible. ■

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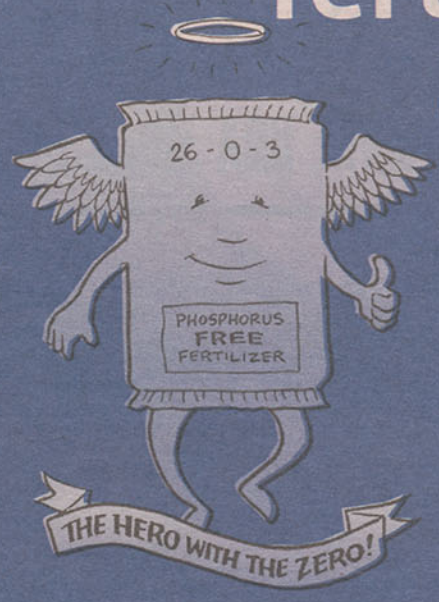

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MARK BIALEK

THE King of COOL

Alex Johnson, the mystique of the electric guitar, and the future of rock.

by James Leonard

With its dark walls hung with exotic guitars and covered with concert posters and records, the inside of the Ann Arbor Music Center oozes cool. Coolest of all is its owner, Alex Johnson: teacher, guitarist, and prophet, his long blonde hair touched with gray at the temples. Standing with him is Karen King: Johnson's drummer, disciple, and pro bono business manager, her feathered black hair touched with blonde. Slim and fit, they look like rock royalty—which, for the students who come here to learn how to rock out, they arguably are.

An Ann Arbor native, Johnson grew up with the music. "I was born here in sixty-eight, and I remember playing volleyball with the MC5 in West Park as a little kid. I went to Tappan and Commie High, and in high school I was in Third Rail, a hippie metal hybrid, then I was in a band called Juice. I worked as an engineer at Big Sky and Solid Sound studios and as a studio musician, and in TV, and film, and commercials. But teaching was always something I did, sometimes as my primary source of income, sometimes just as a sideline."

He can recall distinctly the moment he recognized music was his destiny. "I had been working in computer sales, and when the dot-com bubble popped, a lot of my clients were folding. I remember I opened my computer one morning, and I realized that I only had two clients left. At that point I started the Music Center with absolutely no plan whatsoever."

The first years were rough. "I started it in November ninety-nine in the Technology Center over on Washington, where the new Y is now, in an eleven-by-eleven room with a drum set, guitar, amp, and two folding chairs. But the Technology Center was a terrible place to be. Kids would have to step over passed-out drunks to get to lessons! I finally realized how bad it was when somebody kicked in my door and stole all my stuff."

He wised up, and the school grew. By 2003, he had two teachers working for him and moved to a house on the corner of North Main and Summit. By 2008, they'd outgrown that and moved to the upper floor of the Al Nalli Building, on Ashley next to the Fleetwood Diner. Just a year later, they rented the whole place. They now have two dozen teachers and nearly 500 students, "three floors of lessons, eight thousand square feet with four-teen practice rooms, four of which are also band practice rooms. And we just added the Ann Arbor Modern Conservatory in the building next door, where we teach violin, viola, cello, and double bass in all the fundamentals of classical and modern styles, so they can play everything from Mozart to Led Zeppelin!

"I've devoted my life to this," says Johnson, his sincerity as palpable as his cool. "I am a music teacher, and my goal is to teach our students to be musicians in the fullest sense of the word."

School's out by this time, and the center's filling with students, including the five teenagers playing in one of the school's bands—Dave Gissiner and Dan Sagher on guitars, Robert Manor on keyboard, Drew Polovick on bass, and Erez Levin on drums. Short-haired and casually dressed, they look like any other skinny kids until they pick up their instruments in the main practice room and are transformed into cocky little rock gods.

After a few quick licks, they settle into an amazingly credible cover of "Time" from Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* with Johnson on vocals and sound effects. Then they tear into a kick-ass surf-punk pastiche instrumental with a relentless groove from the rhythm section plus searing solos from the guitars. This isn't just zombie-making music. These kids have great technique, and they rock!

> Of the center's nearly 500 students, 90 percent are male, Johnson says, "the vast majority teenage boys and younger." For most, the irresistible lure is the chance to wield an electric guitar. "It's just so cool, like a sword or a laser gun or a hot rod all rolled into one," says Johnson. "And of course girls think you're cool if you play one."

Ninety percent of the center's students are male, Johnson tells me, "the vast majority teenage boys and younger." For most, the irresistible lure is the chance to wield an electric guitar. "It's just so cool, like a sword or a laser gun or a hot rod all rolled into one," says Johnson. "And of course girls think you're cool if you play one."

But it's not just guitar—they also teach "bass, drums, piano, voice, ukulele—which is a great instrument for four-year-olds to start on!—flute, clarinet, and now violin, viola, cello, and double bass," Johnson says. "We also have rock bands, blues bands, jazz bands, and rock band camp in the summer."

The bands may be Johnson's greatest inspiration. "It dawned on me that I can teach the great rock songs and the great rock solos, but if my student doesn't have an outlet for his skills, he may not stick with it. I was in lessons with a kid named Nick, and I said to him, 'If I offered rock band classes, would you…' and before I could even finish the sentence, he said, 'Yes, sign me up.' From then forward, when someone inquires about lessons, I explain about the rock band school, and they love it.

"Our average age has gotten younger, it's twelve years old now, and they're playing in bands! We've got seven-year-olds in bands, and they can play! Our kids are from Ann Arbor and the surrounding communities. I speak in the schools all the time, and our bands play their ice cream social circuit. We've got these kids playing Black Sabbath sets at the ice cream social! It's everything rock never knew it would be!

"We have twenty bands, usually four or five students in each band, and always students playing with instructors—if a seven-year-old can keep up with a forty-year-old, he'll have chops to spare. The bands play classic rock, advanced bands do whole sets of single bands, like we've done Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*, and we've done Black Sabbath and Led Zeppelin and the Beatles and the Who. And we do shows all the time. The Tap Room in Ypsilanti has been a great outlet for us. We get the Saturday slot between six and eight."

But rock and roll isn't just for kids; it's for adults too. "Our adults are from all walks of life, usually very well established in their careers. But there's a problem: a lot of adults reach about forty and realize that they've screwed up. They've got a successful career, true, but they don't know how to rock!

"Though for adults," he adds, "it's really mostly the blues. A lot of guys over forty have the blues because the blues is about daily life and the daily struggle for existence. Plus, for anyone just learning the guitar, the blues only has three chords and five notes, and it doesn't take long to play the blues."

When he's not playing rock with his students, Johnson plays mostly blues.

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THE *King* OF COOL

"It's something I really love, though I also love the Beatles, and I'm a giant Zeppelin head." Asked his favorite guitarist, he thinks about it then says, "Eric Clapton." To hear Johnson play a killer electric twelve-bar, google "Guitar Center King of the Blues '07," and stand back.

The center's not a one-man band. "Karen King is very important," Johnson says. "I started it, but she's the force that drives the growth. She's filled with limitless energy, and she's made my job so much easier. She came to learn drums eight years ago, and a couple years later, she's running the place!"

"I asked him if he could teach old ladies to drum," King says when I talk to her later in the Ann Arbor Modern Conservatory's tastefully decorated front room. "I've always loved percussion, but I thought you had to be born with some special talent. But I started in August and practiced every day, and they put me in a band in December! Now I wonder why more people don't do it. Because I know what it did for me, what it did for my soul, and I want everyone to have this experience."

King began helping out back when the music center was on North Main. Her kids were taking lessons from Johnson, so she started cleaning up the place while she waited for them. "Now I do almost everything."

Back in the main building, Johnson describes his faculty. "Many of my teachers were my students. I know they know how to read and theory and how to teach it. Most rock-and-roll dudes say, 'put your fingers here, here, and here, and now strum,' but our teachers do so much more than that."

Brendon Lally matches Johnson's description. He had two years of lessons with Johnson as a teenager and went on to become a professional musician. Then he bumped into his old teacher at the Tap Room. They talked, Lally agreed to try teaching, and two years later he's got fifty students, five days a week.

"I've got an eight-and-a-half-year-old and one in his mid-forties," Lally says, "but mostly early teenage dudes who know the guitar is the coolest thing in the world. I teach guitar and bass and have four or five rock bands. I teach them how to rehearse, to tighten it up or hold to the tempo, or whatever. They all have a tendency to play fast and loud, and I try to get them to slow down a little bit and focus on the dynamics."

> "A lot of adults reach about forty and realize they've screwed up," says Johnson. "They've got a successful career, true, but they don't know how to rock!"

The music center charges $31 for a half-hour weekly private lesson and $90 per month to participate in the band program: weekly hour-long rehearsals plus regular performances. About 20 percent of the students play in the program, and there are currently six adult bands and twenty kid bands.

Johnson still has no definite plan for the future. "We might possibly open another location in another city in maybe four or five years, but there's lots of work to do yet." And he plans to keep doing a lot of it himself—after twenty years, he still teaches seven days a week. "Someday, however, it'll be big enough to take care of me in my golden years, I hope," he says.

It should—as long as boys still know the guitar is the coolest thing in the world, and middle-aged men still have the blues. ■

MARK BIALEK

A Pink Floyd tribute band—Rob Manor, Erez Levin, Dave Gissiner, Dan Sagher, and Drew Polovick—launches into an amazingly credible cover of "Time" from *The Dark Side of the Moon*.

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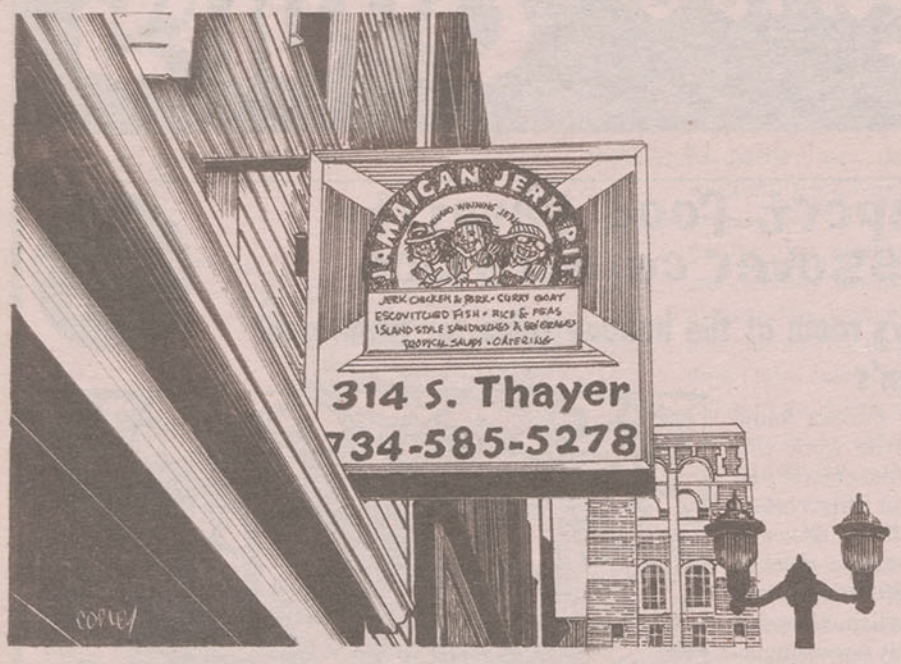

Jamaican Jerk Pit

Bring on the heat.

Arriving as an exchange student in the Caribbean many Augusts ago, I dropped pounds as fast as ice cream melts. The sparkling sea and flowers couldn't have been more appealing, but a whiny letter home complained: "I'm hot all the time, and the food is so spicy, greasy, mushy, or sweet …" I swore over our daily dish of mashed breadfruit (also used to make paper, 'cause even termites don't like it), vowing never again to eat it again by choice.

I've since come to enjoy much of what derailed me then, including curried and jerked meats and bananas' starchy cousins, plantains. Such island staples feature prominently on the menu at Jamaican Jerk Pit, just off campus in an old house on Thayer. They're prepared to order in an unusual split-level space that conjures up as much of a rustic sunny atmosphere as possible in the shadow of Hill Auditorium.

The other local restaurant I thought of most as a comparison with the Jerk Pit was Frita Batidos, as much for the contrast as the similarities in their approaches to Caribbean-inspired dining.

A relentless reggae soundtrack and big bright posters of beaches and Bob Marley drive home the theme. Lined up in the cold case are Ting grapefruit soda, coconut water, Coke bottled in Mexico (with real sugar, no corn syrup), and other drinks of the south—but, alas, not rum or Red Stripe beer. A small warm case offers ugly yellow-dough meat pies for three bucks each—that's either too much or a bargain, depending how you feel about this particular street food. To me they tasted pretty much like the last ones I had in Jamaica: heavy and nondescript.

Tradition and kitsch clash both in the food and decor at Jamaican Jerk Pit, but there's more good than bad here. The "jerk" process of pre-rubbing meats with a savory-sweet mixture—heavy on the hot pepper, garlic, salt, thyme, allspice, and cinnamon—reliably produces densely flavorful results. The chicken and pork jerk versions I sampled were generally tender and delicious, though with an occasional fatty or chewy morsel. Also one "medium" spice order of chicken produced full facial sweats from the heat. Be sure to communicate clearly to your friendly server about your spicing tolerance, and be ready to temper the intense sauce with accompanying forkfuls of mild rice and "peas" (kidney beans, not the green peas northerners might expect). If your tastes are more temperate, the curry entrees are quite mild. A huge helping of curried halal goat was stewed fork-tender with onions, carrots, and potatoes—and if that's not exotic enough there's oxtail stew as well.

There have been Caribbean restaurants in Ann Arbor before—Bev's Kitchen on Packard, and an earlier iteration of the Jerk Pit before it was taken over in 2009 by Jamaica native Robert Campbell, who also owns the Irie Caribbean Kitchen in Canton. But the other local restaurant I thought of most as a comparison with the Jerk Pit was Frita Batidos, as much for the contrast as the similarities in their approaches to Caribbean-inspired dining: Frita's antiseptic white interior and mostly ground meats versus the Jerk Pit's colorful interior and sauced slabs. Both places work the details for fresh-tasting food, but Frita's brioche-style buns are better than the Jerk Pit's mundane kaiser rolls. On the other hand, I found the Jerk Pit's salt cod fritters more interesting than Frita's conch fritters, because there was such pronounced interplay between the little spikes of briny fish, doughy stuffing, and the fried-to-perfection crust.

Another standout among the Jerk Pit's "calypso starters" is pumpkin soup ("of the day" technically but available on all my February visits). Its lovely thick broth mingles white-meat chicken, homemade dumplings, and stewed yellow chunks of real honest-to-Jah pumpkin. The coconut shrimp starter was just OK, not particularly exciting or unusual. Better to save yourself for the "Island Style Entrees," most of which round out nicely with side helpings of lightly curried sautéed cabbage, wonderful caramelized plantains, fried redskins, or the omnipresent rice and peas (at least it's not breadfruit …). Bow tie pasta with chicken in creamy jerk sauce was a dreary dun color but tasted better than it looked.

Some entrées take a while to prepare, but be sure to save time and room for dessert when the luscious coconut cake is in the case. Its tall, rich cake layers stack high with interspersed custard and almost ganache-dense icing, topped off by a dusting of flaked coconut. Ideal for two to share, it's an island escape on a plate.

Jamaican Jerk Pit
314 S. Thayer
585–5278
www.jamaicanjerkpit.com

Mon.–Thurs. 11:30 a.m–9:30 p.m., Fri. 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. (buffet) noon–8 p.m.

Appetizers $3–$7.50, sandwiches and salads $6–$8, entrees $9.50–$14.50, dessert $4.

Wheelchair accessible (one floor only)

Zamaan Cafés

Beyond aromatic

Walk into the Zamaan Café off Plymouth Road, and the upholstered surfaces and Lebanese decor items immediately signal that this is something more than an anonymous fast food joint, genus Middle Eastern. Evocative sepia photos of sun-bleached cities and seaside castles get you primed for a rewarding cultural encounter. The rich and caringly crafted meals do not disappoint—even if you stop only long enough to grab your carryout.

A friend who sat down proclaiming he'd have a meat sandwich and nothing more ended up tasting and enjoying several of Zamaan's Lebanese signature creations. He raved most about the *makale,* lemony-mellow fried potatoes and eggplant cubes that were as creamy inside as the almost-whipped hummus base they sat on. Ordered at our server's recommendation from the list of eight "hummus specialties," this was perhaps the second-most popular dish we sampled on that visit. The most popular was *karnabeet,* an appetizer

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ILLUSTRATIONS: JOHN COPLEY

The Zingerman's Times

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Business Leaders Drop Out of School of Hard Knocks, Register at ZingTrain

According to the *Times* education desk, business owners and managers who can't afford the high price of learning by trial and error are turning to Zingerman's. John Clark, Director of Bakery and Deli Operation at Harps Stores in Springdale, Arkansas is happy to learn from someone else's experience. "This was easily the best money I have spent on training," he noted after a attending a seminar in Ann Arbor.

Taught by Zingerman's owners, managers and staff, ZingTrain seminars reveal the forward-thinking approach to business the organization developed through it's own struggles and successes.

For the full schedule of seminars and workshops visit www.zingtrain.com

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www.Zingermans.com

times readers report food favorite part of their passover celebration

Erev Passover is April 6

Local families say there is always room at the holiday table for traditional full-flavored fare from Zingerman's

A survey conducted by the *Times* holiday bureau found area families are letting Zingerman's do the work this Passover with tasty treats that encourage loved ones to just relax and enjoy the festival. Sources confirm Zingerman's Deli features a Passover meal for four with the choice of roast beef brisket or whole-roasted free-range chicken served with traditional Passover sides for $89. Other menu highlights include Charoset, Fresh Horseradish, Chopped Liver, Jewish Chicken Broth, and more. Visit www.zingermansdeli.com for the full Passover menu.

Sources reveal Zingerman's Roadhouse is also a popular destination for *Times* readers this holiday. The Roadhouse's special Passover menu features an array of Jewish-American favorites for starters, entrees and dessert. Check it out at www.zingermansroadhouse.com.

In addition, all month long the Bakehouse and Delicatessen are serving up (wheat-free) Passover lemon sponge cake with lemon curd filling and merigue topping as well as Chocolate Orange Torte made with matzo meal. Need a hostess gift? Try matzo mandelbrot and coconut macaroons, a traditional Passover sweet made with real vanilla bean or dark chocolate. Available individually and packaged in special holiday gift boxes at the Bakehouse, Delicatessen and www.zingermans.com.

Complete Seder meal for 4 from Zingerman's Delicatessen: $89!

easter bunny confides favorite source for hoppy holiday baskets

TOP CHOICE: Zingerman's handmade candy, cookies from Candy Manufactory and Bakehouse

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Easter Cookies, Cakes and Cupcakes
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Hot Cross Buns
Soft yeasted bun made with a bit of oatmeal loaded with raisins, currants, candied orange peel and decorated with an icing cross. Available at Zingerman's Bakehouse and Deli. **Available 4/5-4/8.**

Zingerman's Bakehouse

record enrollment at school for home bakers results in school expansion

"I reach for the BAKE! recipes over and over in my home baking."—BAKE! Alum, Jackie MacGregor

The admissions office at BAKE! hands-on baking school confirms a second teaching kitchen is now in operation, offering home bakers more classes, at more times. Insiders tell the *Times* that bakers of all skill levels from across the country are learning tips and techniques for making full-flavored breads and pastries in classes taught by experts from Zingerman's Bakehouse. Space is extremely limited! For the full schedule and to register, visit www.bakewithzing.com.

camp bacon reservations going fast

Third Annual Event Convenes May 31-June 3rd

Times travel reporters say amid the upcoming summer camp season, one event is drawing a special breed of camper. Tamworth, Berkshire, Duroc and other heritage hogs are joining the nation's foremost bacon-makers, chefs, musicians, poets, and historians and bacon lovers from around the country at the third annual at Zingerman's Camp Bacon. Seats are limited – reserve now!

For details, full schedule, and reservations, visit www.zingermanscampbacon.com or baconbits@zingermans.com

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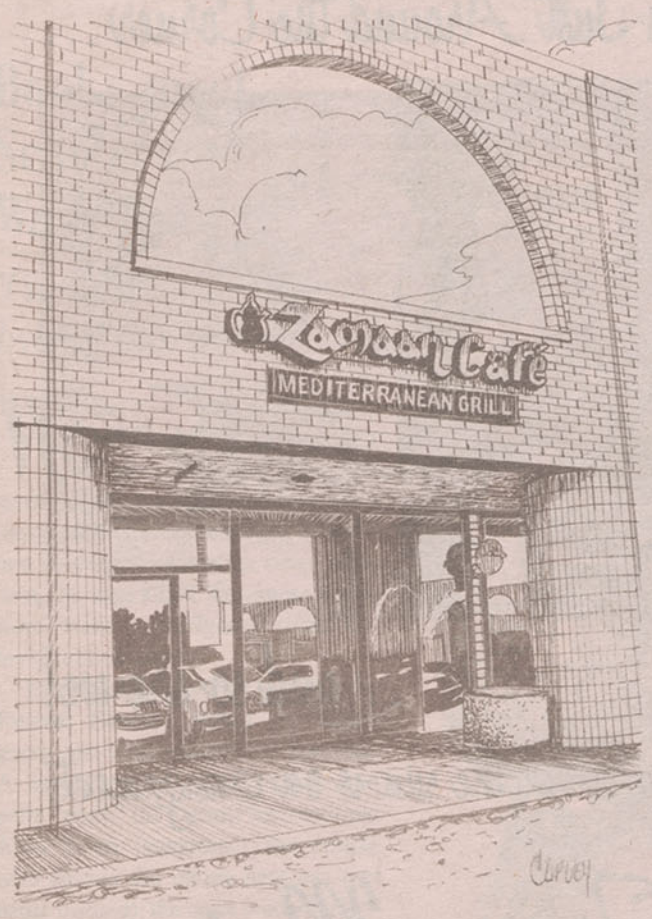

Karnabeet, *sautéed cauliflower in a tomato-based stew, was a satisfying vegetarian option—"bacony," my sister said, recognizing a smokiness that goes beyond aromatic to heartily infuse Zamaan's warm dishes.*

of robust-flavored sautéed cauliflower pieces adrift in a lightly stewed sea of tomato chunks, onion, parsley, and pomegranate seeds (a charismatic garnish). It was a satisfying vegetarian option—"bacony," my sister said, recognizing a smokiness that goes beyond aromatic to heartily infuse Zamaan's warm dishes.

Richness carries into other items. Fattoush salad with lots of red and green pepper amid the romaine lettuce, tomatoes, and deep-fried pita chips came drenched in maybe not a half cup but certainly a third of a cup of sumac-orange house vinaigrette. The dressing has a pleasant if mild flavor, but still I would advise ordering it on the side—and not dropping any oily forkfuls on your pants. Big but tender lightly charred beef or chicken chunks make the shish kabob pita wrap a good deal for under $5 (and according to the menu's cover, the meat is halal). White meat chicken shawarma wraps satisfy as well, with or without feta cheese but decidedly *with* garlic sauce. And if you like your baba ghanoush intensely garlicky, get ready to go clove-hugging here. It seems odd that Zamaan's hummus is so mild in comparison, with its flavor mainly dependent on tahini.

Along with the lovely garnets of pomegranate, lemon slices, and various pepper garnishes, splashes of color show up even on dishes you expect to look drab. Brown-as-ever lentil and cracked wheat mjuddara, for example, comes with a pastel green creamy cucumber sauce that both looks and tastes bright. No such luck with desserts though: imported from Dearborn, taffy-dense honey coconut cake and phyllo pastries span the spectrum from beige to tan. Nut fillings for the tiny pastries are carefully labeled as pistachio, cashew, and pine nut, but they didn't taste much different to me. Chalk it up to a case of cheap dessert giving you what you pay for.

We also tried the second Zamaan Café location at the entrance-challenged Colonnade center off Eisenhower. There, the pastries actually tasted stale, possibly because traffic is slower at this location in its early months of business (a third location on Packard is no more). The menu has most of the same items offered on Plymouth (including all the ones mentioned above), plus gyro sandwiches on thick, fresh-tasting bread.

The southside location has the same homey warmth, but swaps out the old-style photos for big, goofy-looking flying carpet paintings. And lest I forget to mention a notable accessory at both spots: real hookah pipes in sizes small, medium, and large. The pipes are just for show, but the Zamaan cafés do offer interesting teas, Turkish coffee, and fruit smoothies. And I wouldn't worry about the less-than-stellar desserts. With meals this rich, you'll have little room or interest left for much in the way of sweets.

—M.B. Lewis

Zamaan Café
3580 Plymouth Rd.
213–3350

Mon.–Sat. 10:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–8 p.m.

865 W. Eisenhower (Colonnade)
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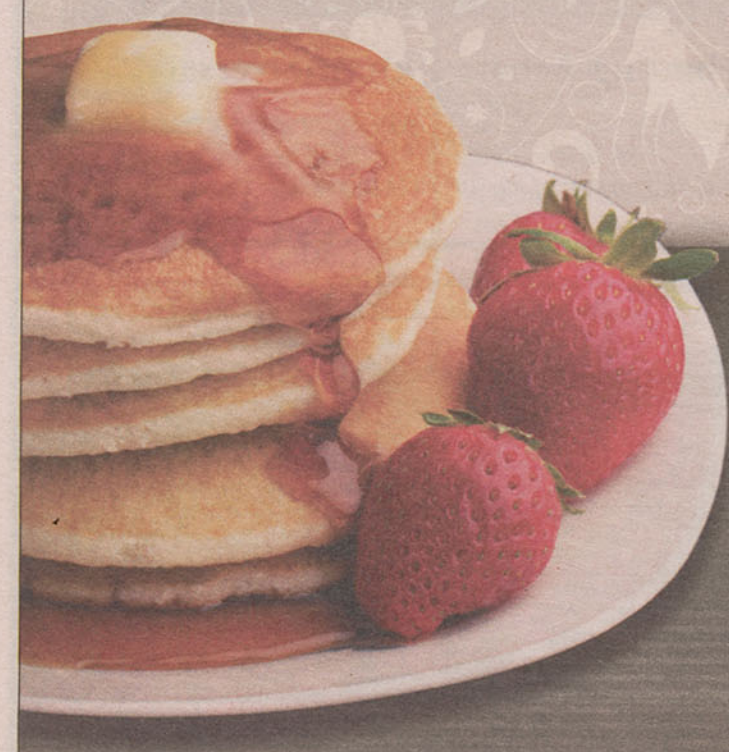

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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

Books meet Scooters on Washtenaw

The Huang brothers' hybrid business

Watching a driver wrangling a newspaper on a morning commute makes it clear that reading and operating a vehicle are a lousy combination, but Ann Arbor's first scooter store and its sister business, the area's first Taiwanese bookstore, make an intriguing, if not entirely related, twofer.

Eric Huang, fifty-two, opened the **Detroit Scooter Salon** on Washtenaw just west of Golfside last year. A subsidiary of Allen Park's auto parts "mall," the Detroit International Auto Salon (sometimes the people who answer the phone here use that name instead), the store features electric scooters and motor-assisted bicycles and is intended to tap into Ann Arbor's reputation for "early adopters" (i.e., U-M and EMU students) and give the increasingly congested community an alternative to cars.

The scooters, none of which require a license to operate, start at around $2,500, and you can fill the tank and drive it for a month before you have to refuel—a huge bonus now that gas prices are on the rise again. Eric and his younger brother, Tony Huang, who is vice-president of marketing, also carry electric scooters, including the four-wheeled "mobility" versions popular with seniors. "More clean, more green," Eric says.

The Huangs import the scooters from Taiwan but within the next three years they hope to be producing their own domestically made scooters in both gas and electric versions. The first model, yet to be built, already has a name: the Detroit Scooter.

With space left over at the back of the shop, the brothers decided to open a bookstore. Eric says he wanted a place where members of the local Chinese community could buy books and magazines in their native tongue. Like many of his fellow Taiwanese (he and his brother moved to the states in 2007), Eric considers himself Chinese, but he called it the **Taiwanese Bookstore** and not the Chinese Bookstore because he didn't want to confuse people about the kinds of books and magazines he carries. He says 95 percent of his customers are Chinese and about 5 percent are American students studying the language.

All of them, he hopes, might check out a scooter after browsing the books.

Detroit Scooter Salon and Taiwanese Bookstore, 4949 Washtenaw, 961–8824. Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. and Sun. detroitautosalon.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Eric Huang and his brother, Tony, sell both gas- and electric-powered scooters at their east-side store—along with books and magazines from Taiwan.

Coffee, Continued

Two-and-a-half cafés

Apparently the market is still not saturated when it comes to coffee. If there were a parlor game called "You Know You're in Ann Arbor When …," you could now finish the sentence: "… the coffee shop in the police station carries locally roasted espresso drinks and no doughnuts."

The **Tasty Green Café,** which opened at the end of February in the Larcom Municipal Center (aka City Hall), sells no doughnuts, but instead sells Danishes, made fresh every day at Ann Arbor's Mediterranean Market, as well as an array of its savory pastries like spinach and chicken pies; brownies from local wholesale bakery Tasty Footprints; coffee and coffee drinks from locally roasted beans (Coffee Express); some simple salads and wraps; and a wide variety of packaged convenience store–type treats: pretzels, gum, candy bars, bottled soft drinks, and juices. A large basket of 5-hour Energy drinks suggests that city employees need caffeine in the same pharmaceutical doses as students and truck drivers.

Tasty Green Café's large and cheerfully painted picture window, which fronts on Huron (right behind the water sculpture on the plaza), is tantalizingly visible from cars driving down Huron, but the traffic doesn't encourage quick stops. Owner Goitom Berhe ("most people call me G") confirms that business so far is mostly from city employees. "We get a lot of lawyers too," he says, pointing to the Justice Center next door. For now, his hours pretty much mirror the building's hours, but he says he'll be putting tables and chairs out on the plaza this spring, and if he attracts enough customers, he may add weekend or evening hours.

Berhe is not new to the Ann Arbor coffee scene. He owned the Primo Coffee that opened exactly two blocks south, in the space now occupied by AnnArbor.com. Berhe sold it to a partner, and it closed in 2009, but he still owns the Primo Coffee on Whittaker Road in Ypsi.

Tasty Green Café, 301 N. Huron, 657–4426. Mon.–Fri. 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun.

❧❧❧

While Tasty Green's mission is to refuel and recaffeinate civil servants quickly and efficiently, a few blocks away, **the espresso bar** is offering coffee with fewer frills and some attitude. Owners Sanford Bledsoe and Anna Foster call theirs a "pop-up" coffeehouse, though not in the sense that it opens at unpredictable times, and certainly not in the sense that it's in any way illegal. In fact, the building in Braun Court, which used to be a restaurant called Fuji, is blessed with some infrastructure many coffeehouse owners would kill for: a commercial kitchen. Bledsoe and Foster re-licensed it, and Foster uses it to make whatever treats she feels like. "She makes all kinds of different stuff," Bledsoe says. "We have scones today. Yesterday we had biscuits. Sometimes on the weekends she makes French toast."

Twenty-three-year-old Foster says she has no training, though that isn't strictly true: "I studied at Washtenaw for a few weeks before deciding I was bored of it, then I worked at Zingerman's Bakehouse for a couple of months."

The espresso bar came about because their friend Ted Kennedy, who co-owns the similarly unadvertised Bar at 327 Braun Court, upstairs, was only occasionally using the downstairs for screenings of his experimental films. Bledsoe and Foster asked if they could put it to use as a café. Decorated with their own furniture (some wooden tables and what looks like the ratty corner booth from an old diner), the venture is, according to Bledsoe, "low risk and possibly short term"—a stopgap while he and Foster figure out whether they want to go into business in a more serious and permanent way.

the espresso bar, 327 Braun Ct., no phone. Tues.–Sun. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Mon.

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Marketplace Changes

Though it's not exactly a new business, over on Packard east of Stadium a couple of sandwich boards propped outside Morgan & York advertise what appears to be a place called "My Secret Coffee" somewhere in the little block of businesses that also houses Cake Nouveau and Morty's Secret Garden.

A closer look at the calligraphy shows that the signs actually read **M & Y Secret Coffee,** the M & Y standing for Morgan & York.

Co-owner Simone Jenkins says the signs are meant to trick the eye into seeing "My Secret Coffee," and what they advertise is Morgan & York's foray into the early morning hours. Owners Matt Morgan (Jenkins's husband) and Tommy York "are early risers anyway. And I've never seen Matt go for more than a few hours without an espresso," so it was a no-brainer to open up the store to people on their way to work.

In February, they began opening (the back door only, hence the "secret") at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Coffee and pastries have been available for some time at M & Y, but they upgraded the espresso machine and positioned some of carpenter Joe Parker's handmade tables and chairs in the back of the store, making it clear that you're now welcome to enjoy your Café Japon croissant or your Elaine's bagel and your cappuccino on-site. Jenkins says they're looking into offering a savory breakfast too; they're working to carefully gerrymander the menu around the health code to avoid having to put in a commercial kitchen.

If you haven't been to M & Y for a while, you might not know that it also has an extensive lunch menu of sandwiches and soups, and space up front to sit and eat.

M & Y Secret Coffee, 1928 Packard, 662–0798. Mon.–Sat. 7:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. morganandyork.com

Smokehouse Blues Is Now Brahma Steakhouse

Sava's uncle takes an east-side spot.

Local restaurateur Demos Panos put his **Smokehouse Blues Bar and Grill** on Washtenaw up for sale last year so he could concentrate on his other businesses. That paved the way for his longtime friend, Louie Vushaj, to open the exotic-sounding **Brahma Steakhouse & Lounge** in March.

Ironically, Vushaj was himself on the verge of pulling back after working in the restaurant business since he was a teenager. (His most recent foray, Bravo's in Auburn Hills, was sold to fund Brahma.) But he was intrigued by the location—a popular spot for beef for decades, it was originally Herc's Beef & Spirits—and by Ann Arbor in general, and he knew the area's restaurant business because his niece, Sava Lelcaj, owns Sava's on State. It was one of those charmed opportunities that seemed like the right fit. "Everything fell together," Vushaj says happily.

The name comes from the Spanish Brahma bull, and Vushaj says at least one of the steaks on the menu will be Brahma beef. The rest of the menu will feature more familiar varieties of beef, fish, and pasta, with main course prices running around $10 to $20.

Vushaj says he pretty much gutted the place, and it now sports new hardwood floors and booths, fresh paint, and a newly spiffed-up bar. He calls the atmosphere "very casual. We're a steakhouse. We want everyone to be comfortable."

Vushaj, thirty-eight, has apparently had his interest in the restaurant business revived by Brahma—he plans to open more restaurants after this one. As soon as his two young children finish the school year, he plans to move to Ann Arbor, where he'll create a new kind of family at his restaurant: most of the Smokehouse Blues staff has been kept on.

Brahma Steakhouse & Lounge, 4855 Washtenaw, 434–5554. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–midnight, Sun. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Closed Mon. smokehouseblues.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Louie Vushaj sold a restaurant in Farmington Hills to open the Brahma Steakhouse & Lounge. He figures the building is a natural destination for meat eaters: before Smokehouse Blues, it was Herc's Beef & Spirits.

Closings

Yamato, the serene little Japanese restaurant at the back of Kerrytown's pretty courtyard, will be closing at the end of March, and owner Kazuko Ishizuka will be retiring.

Her husband, Norihiro Ishizuka, is not ready to retire. Mi-

yake, as his friends call him, is Yamato's sushi chef, with the classic and rigorous Japanese training that is becoming increasingly rare as sushi becomes a mainstream snack rather than a highly codified and refined Japanese protocol. "Miyake-San will start at Passport [restaurant] April fifth. He will be the head chef of the sushi bar," says Sarah West, a friend of the family.

West helped open Yamato in 1996 when she was sixteen. Now a photographer's stylist in Los Angeles, West was in town for a month or two to help the Ishizukas close the restaurant. "I'm helping them do things like Social Security, because they don't have children of their own," she says.

West says that those who know sushi recognize the sushi that comes out of the Miyake's kitchen as the real thing. "It just has a look to it. A lot of sushi these days is—I can't explain it—kind of big and messy. His is very Japanese and traditional."

❧❧❧

Abraham Hejazi, who is closing his women's clothing store **Allure** on the Michigan Theater block of Liberty, isn't the first shop owner to cite the area's diminishing foot traffic as the reason. But he has a novel way of expressing it: "Even the panhandlers have left."

The area, he claims, has long been plagued with what he calls "very aggressive" panhandlers. "They shout at you when you pass by. They have their 'office' in the alley." When the closing of Borders, directly across the street from Allure, eliminated a large source of legitimate foot traffic on the block, Hejazi was afraid the panhandlers would completely overrun the neighborhood.

Instead, he says, since Borders closed, the more ambitious panhandlers seem to have deserted for more lucrative posts. "Look," he says, pointing to a sole homeless person quietly taking shelter under the Borders awning on a rainy morning. "He's just sitting there. I feel bad for him. If I had work, I'd give it to him."

Hejazi's ten-year lease was up last July, but the landlord convinced him to stay for another eight months, and he'll be closing at the end of April—sooner if he runs out of merchandise. He wants to open another clothing store sometime, perhaps on or near Main Street, with slightly lower prices and serving a larger—in all senses—clientele: "Here, I only serve the students, and students around here are very small. My wife is a size six, and she can't wear anything here."

Hejazi started out in the restaurant business: he and his brother Ali owned the Lebanese restaurant Shahrayar on Maynard in the 1990s. Ali (who spells the family surname Hijazi) now owns the Zamaan cafés, on Eisenhower and Plymouth Road (see Restaurants, p. 45).

For the time being, Hejazi says, he is content to focus on his wholesale perfume business.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com, or leave voicemail at 769–3175 x 309.

april

St. Lawrence String Quartet
Thursday \ April 5 \ 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Haydn	Quartet No. 57 in C Major, Op. 74, No. 1 (1793)
R.M. Schafer	Quartet No. 3 (1981)
Golijov	Kohelet (composed for SLSQ) (2011)
Haydn	Quartet No. 61 in d minor, Op. 76, No. 2 ("Quinten") (1796-97)

Media Partner **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

High-Definition Broadcast from the National Theatre, London
National Theatre Live: *She Stoops to Conquer*
By Oliver Goldsmith | Directed by Jamie Lloyd
Wednesday \ April 11 \ 7 pm
Michigan Theater

One of the great, generous-hearted and ingenious comedies of the English language, Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer* offers a celebration of chaos, courtship and the dysfunctional family.

Zakir Hussain & Masters of Percussion
Thursday \ April 12 \ 7:30 pm
Hill Auditorium

The pre-eminent classical tabla virtuoso of our time, Zakir Hussain delivers brilliant performances that have established him as a national treasure in his native India and one of the world's most esteemed and influential musicians, renowned for his genre-defying collaborations. Masters of Percussion, an outgrowth of Hussain's memorable tours with his father, the legendary Ustad Allarakha, has enjoyed successful tours in the West since 1996. Joining the 2012 tour will be Fazal Qureshi, tabla & kanjira; Rakesh Chaurasia, bansuri (bamboo flute); T.H.V. Umashankar, ghatam; Dilshad Khan, sarangi; Navin Sharma, dholak; Abbos Kosimov, doyra; and the Meitei Pung Cholom (dancing drummer of Manipur).

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, Ann Arbor's 107one,** and **Metro Times.**

Cheikh Lô
Friday \ April 13 \ 8 pm
Michigan Theater

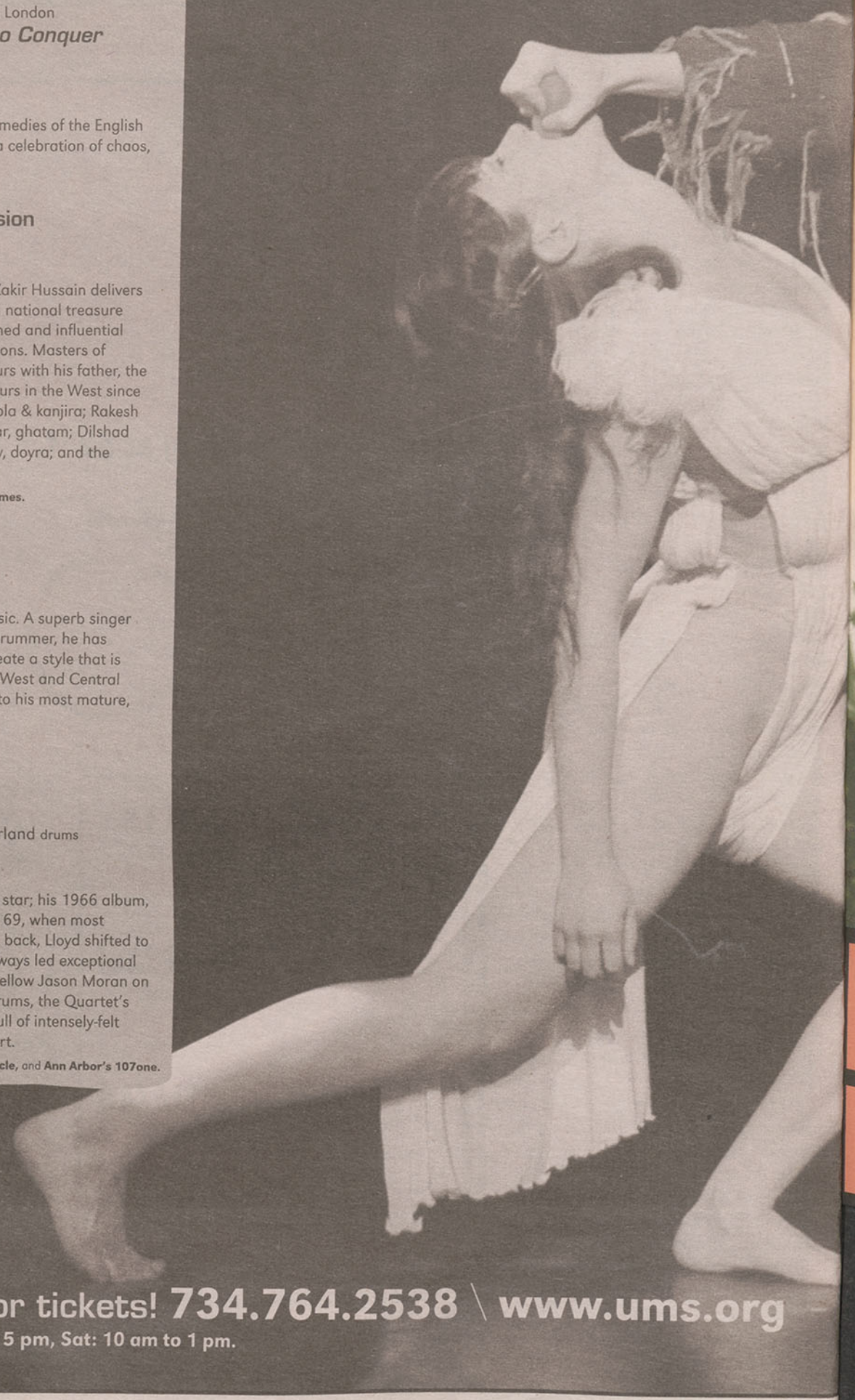
Cheikh Lô is one of the great mavericks of African music. A superb singer and songwriter, as well as a distinctive guitarist and drummer, he has personalized and distilled a variety of influences to create a style that is uniquely his own. His blend of semi-acoustic flavors – West and Central African, funk, Cuban, flamenco – has been distilled into his most mature, focused, yet diverse statement today.

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM** and **The Michigan Chronicle.**

Charles Lloyd New Quartet
Charles Lloyd saxophones and flute
Jason Moran piano | Reuben Rogers bass | Eric Harland drums
Saturday \ April 14 \ 8 pm
Michigan Theater

Forty years ago, saxophonist Charles Lloyd was a pop star; his 1966 album, *Forest Flower*, sold a million copies. Four years ago, at 69, when most individuals are thinking of ways to slow down and kick back, Lloyd shifted to a higher gear and formed a new quartet. Lloyd has always led exceptional bands, and this is perhaps the best. With MacArthur fellow Jason Moran on piano, Reuben Rogers on bass, and Eric Harland on drums, the Quartet's concerts are events of pristine beauty and elegance, full of intensely-felt emotion and passion that touches deep inside the heart.

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, Metro Times, The Michigan Chronicle,** and **Ann Arbor's 107one.**



UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY **ums** Call or click for tickets! **734.764.2538** \ **www.ums.org**
Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 am to 5 pm, Sat: 10 am to 1 pm.

DOWNTOWN HOME & GARDEN MANUAL

Spring 2012

Seeds ~ Plants ~ Organic Fertilizer ~ Canning Supplies ~ Furniture

Looking Forward

A funny thing happened along the road to old age last fall. My good, good friend Bill Zolkowski and I decided to open a beer garden. Imprudent at age 67? Maybe. Crazy? You tell me. Bill's Beer Garden will be located in our store parking lot at the corner of Liberty and Ashley St. Its hours will be 5PM to 11PM most days spring through late fall, with opening scheduled around July 4th this summer. These hours mean that Downtown Home & Garden will continue to use the valuable parking for our customers during the day and at busy times, while allowing the space to morph into a beer garden in the evening. Parking in the daytime, beer garden in the evening: double use, one of my favorite themes. Another twofer is that the ethnic street food from Mark's Carts goes great with beer.

Bill's Beer Garden will offer locally brewed beers, wine, and hard cider in a pleasant outdoor setting. The goal is to make it a family-friendly townie hangout with long tables that encourage conversation and new friendships - a place to eat interesting ethnic street food, play cribbage, and watch the town stroll by, enjoying the weather and loving the life. My wife, Margaret, designed our parking lot and garden twelve years ago as an urban oasis surrounded by a handsome iron fence and a hedge of pleached trees. It was our thought then, and still is, that open space is an essential component of an enjoyable urban environment. Bill's Beer Garden will offer more people a chance to enjoy our open space into the evening, and for me, that alone is reason enough for this project.

The plan for a beer garden came about last fall after I'd told Bill about the success of the first season at Mark's Carts. He'd asked casually, "What's next?" and I answered casually, "Maybe a beer garden," thinking vaguely of next year. I had no real plan. A couple of days later, Bill stopped by the store to say he'd already decided to retire as principal of the three Plymouth-Canton high schools at the end of the school year and wondered if I wanted a partner in the beer garden... this year. Well, Bill is really enthusiastic and highly energetic, as well as thoughtful. Above all, he has perfect pitch for the tone we project at Downtown Home & Garden, and he is a really friendly guy. I've know Bill for 40 years, and in fact, he worked for me at the Fleetwood Diner in the 1970s before his career as an educator. This was quite an offer from an exceptional person, and I accepted.

So, here we go. Mark and Bill, possibly the two oldest start-up beer garden entrepreneurs you'll ever meet. It may be a little imprudent to take this project on well into the golden years, but it sure is exciting, and it will be fun to work with Bill again. And it doesn't feel crazy to me. It's a good business move for Downtown Home & Garden. Like Mark's Carts last year, Bill's Beer Garden is a nod to the new paradigm downtown, which is more about entertainment and less about traditional hard goods retail. As a rising tide lifts all boats, it's my bet that more activity on our block, another success for the community, will introduce us to new customers and further strengthen our solid retail business. To me, it seems like Mark's Carts and Bill's Beer Garden is a solid way to perpetuate the downtown retail store I grew up with and still love.

Mark

Mark's Carts - Summer 2011

Please Note:
The prices in this manual may have changed since the time we went to press in mid-February.
Call, email, or stop by the store for current prices.

Credits:

Art & Design by
Margaret Parker

Graphic Design by
David Widmayer

Copy by Mark Hodesh
and David Widmayer

Cover:
"Fields of Lace"
by Margaret Parker

Printed by
MJ Print & Imaging
Johnston Lithograph

210 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

25% OFF
Seed Packets
All Season Long

Start seedlings indoors in late March for summer planting

tomatoes	eggplant	peppers
herbs	broccoli	basil

Seed Packets

Sylvia, our seed maven, has put together a tremendous selection of organic and heirloom seeds, plus new and disease-resistant varieties. It's the largest seed packet selection around. Choose from Burpee, Ferry Morse, Seeds of Change, Renee's Garden, and Johnny's.

Bulk Vegetable Seed

Our selection of bulk garden seed is weighted toward Southern tastes. Before the trees got tall up on Summit, Spring, and Gott Street, I remember huge lush gardens of turnip, okra, mustard greens, and collards flourishing there. Even today, bulk seed is still just a fraction of the cost of seed packets.

Get connected with your food source by planting a home garden.

Seeds, Roots & Bulbs

Seed Potatoes

Oh, God, I love when we put out the seed potatoes. Bushel after bushel, smelling of earth, the promise of summer, of abundance, and tons more in burlap bags in the basement. It's a hundred-year-old tradition here and we're proud to carry it on. Farmers plant certified disease-free seed potatoes - you should too.

Adirondack Blue	Irish Cobbler	Russian Banana
Austrian Crescent	Kennebec	Sangre
Cal White	Onaway	Superior
Dark Red Norland	Red Pontiac	Yellow Finn
French Fingerling	Rose Finn Apple	Yukon Gold
German Butterball	Russet Burbank	

Plant roots and tubers outdoors in early April when the soil dries out

potatoes	onions	asaparagus
rhubarb	garlic	shallots

Asparagus

Asparagus prefers sandy soil, but there are many strong beds in Washtenaw County, which generally has clay soil. We carry two varieties: Jersey Giant and Purple Passion. Plant them in full sun - pick up our planting instructions for best results. We've heard of established beds a hundred years old and still producing big harvests.

Plant these seeds outdoors in the garden in mid-April

lettuces	beets	scallions
arugala	spinach	chard

Organic Gardening

Not so complicated - We're here to help you.

These are our three most popular gardening titles.

EPA Oversight Helped Us

We handle more organic fertilizer and gardening supplies than any store around here and we know how to use them too. Organic gardening is a big part of our business, but it hasn't always been so.

When I bought this store from the Hertler family in 1975, it hadn't changed much since the '30s. I found quarts of DDT, chlordane, and nicotine sulfate in the basement, and they were being sold to homeowners all over town, including doctors on their way home from the hospital. Shocking! If it weren't for the EPA, we might still be selling them because they were so effective. As time passed, safer products were developed that take care of pests with much less environmental impact. Removing harmful products from stores like ours helped the bald eagle return from the brink of extinction. This past January, Margaret and I watched a pair perched in a tree out by the river near Wagner Road for half an hour. Spectacular!

Build Organic Soil

Our Garden Story

I used City of Ann Arbor compost and horse manure in our garden. The soil is so soft and fluffy that I can plunge my bare hand in a foot deep and then watch the fat happy worms stick their heads out to see what going on. It's amazing soil.

Margaret planting lettuce with our daughter, Jeanne, on a visit from Brooklyn, enjoying the warm soil.

Beneficial Mycorrhizae in Soil

I failed all my biology courses, so the real science of this is way beyond me. But between the roots and the nutrients in the soil, there are mycorrhizal fungi. In my primitive understanding, they work like your stomach, digesting nutrient food from the soil and making it into something the plant can absorb. Dr. Earth and Espoma Tone organic fertilizers have soil nutrients plus mycorrhizae to aid your plants' digestion. Remember: soil is food - dirt is not.

Mulch to Reduce Weeds

Mulch with Straw and Hay

Straw or hay spread a foot deep between rows is an excellent garden mulch which suppresses weeds and helps the soil retain moisture. When it breaks down at the end of the season, it adds valuable organic matter to your garden.

Subject to market fluctuations, straw is $5.00 a bale, and hay is $7.50.

The Only Downtown Drive-Thru

Doug drives his Dodge pickup with 72 bales of straw right into our drive-thru barn. You can drive right in to park and shop. After we've loaded your bags, pull right out the back and turn right onto Washington. We have room for eight cars inside.

Organic Fertilizers

You don't have to get this mail order, and you don't have to pay freight:

- **Alfalfa Meal**
- **Azomite**
- **Bat Guano**
- **Bone Meal**
- **Cottonseed Meal**
- **Dehydrated Chicken Manure**
- **Dried Blood**
- **Fertrell Super Organic**
- **Fish Emulsion**
- **Fish Meal**
- **Granular Garden Manure**
- **Holly Tone Jersey Greensand**
- **Kelp Meal**
- **Nitrell**
- **Plant Tone**
- **Pulverized Limestone**
- **Soil Sulfur**
- **Worm Castings**

Neptune's Harvest Fish Fertilizer

Control Pests Organically

It ain't right, but it's so: your garden is going to get pests. Here are some products we carry to help you fight back safely. More importantly, we've got the knowledge to back them up.

Milky Spore Disease - Dormant bacteria that come alive in the soil to attack grub larvae. Lasts many years after introduction.

All Seasons Oil Spray - Use on dormant plants or at summer dilution rate to coat and suffocate insects and larvae.

Serenade - Bacillus subtilis fungicide that attacks garden diseases. OMRI listed.

70% Neem Oil - OMRI listed fungicide, insecticide, and miticide. Don't confuse with similar products with less active ingredient.

Thuricide - Bacillus thuringiensis (BT), controls leaf-eating worms and moths.

Captain Jack's Deadbug - Spinosad for bagworms, beetles, caterpillars and leaf miners.

Insecticidal Soap - Mild solution of salts of fatty acids to get rid of whiteflies and aphids.

Tropical Plants

They're not winter-hardy in Michigan, but they're very fast growers with spectacular flowers and foliage. Mandevilla, Bougainvillea, Dipladenia, Plumbago, Hibiscus, Oleander, Banana, Zamia Zamifloria, and Croton - over two dozen varieties in all.

Plants

Give your garden a head start.

Frog Holler

Our friends at Frog Holler provide us with the happiest, most loved organic veggie starts ever.

Vegetables

Plant vegetable starts outdoors after May 21

herbs	tomatoes	peppers
eggplant	broccoli	collards

Plant seeds for fall harvest in early August

lettuce	chard	kale
spinach	peas	beets

Herb Starts

60 varieties of herbs, including:

Basil (Sweet, Thai, Lemon, Purple)
French Tarragon
Arugula
Cilantro
Dill
Parsley (Italian and Curly)
Sage
Thyme (French Cooking, Lemon, Common)
Chamomile

Hanging Baskets

Lee Uloth grows outstanding, robust flower baskets for us, then brings them up from Jasper, MI, right next to Sand Creek. Mom will love them.

Prices typically range from $18-$30.

Lots of our vegetable and annual flower starts are grown by Don Zywicki over in Belleville.

Annuals

Truper Tools

$13.99

$22.99

$14.99

Felco Pruners & Replacement Parts

Radius Garden Hand Tools

Radius Garden tools ergonomically designed right here in Ann Arbor.

$10.00

You could garden with a pointed stick, but that's no way to spend your summer.

T·O·L·S

Lopping Shears

I've loved good garden tools since I first saw them in my great-grandmother's shed. But manufacturers keep making tools cheaper and cheaper, taking the fun out of it. This year, in addition to some really special English and US-made cottage industry tools, we offer Truper garden tools, made in Mexico. They offer just the right balance of price and quality, and we're proud to sell them.

Hori-Hori Knife $39.95

Floral Shovel

Built to work like a full size shovel, but with a smaller head. $15.99

Korean Hand Plow

$18

Have you ever used a hori-hori knife or Korean hand plow? Cool tools that really work.

Watering Cans

Watering cans from plastic and functional to grand galvanized steel.

Your Lawn:
Lush As You Want It

The sad truth is that you aren't going to have much of a lawn if you don't water it, particularly in July and August. We really like Gardena Sprinklers (pictured at left). They're precision made of high-impact plastic and imported from Germany. Check out our full selection of other sprinklers and lots of hoses, too.

Well, yeah. It's a balancing act around here keeping it all going. I'm not afraid of heights and I don't mind a fall once in a while.

Bulk Grass Seed

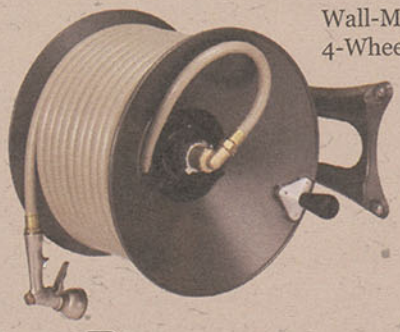
Amazingly old fashioned, yes: we still weigh out quality grass seed by the pound, in any amount you want.

$3 / pound
Covers 250 sq. ft.

Good Hose Reels

I don't know how anyone can stand plastic hose reels. To me, they seem like disappointment waiting to happen. Our metal Rapid Reel hose reels get the job done. And the price is down from last year, too.

Wall-Mount $139
4-Wheel Cart $199



Scotts 4-Application Program

If you want a really good lawn with minimum cost and work, use Scotts. It's so easy you can't screw up, and we'll even write the dates for application right on the bags for you. Our Scotts products have zero phosphates in them - good for the Huron River.

SALE $54.99

210 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Happenings

We're adding new events all the time - check our website, the Ann Arbor Observer, or AnnArbor.com's community calendar.

14th Annual Jam Contest and Tasting

Oct 6,
10 am - 1 pm

Our fabulous annual jam contest and public tasting takes place on the first Saturday in October. Enter your masterpiece jam or jelly by Friday, Oct. 5. Everyone is invited on Saturday to taste the entries on Zingerman's Bakehouse toast, and to vote for their favorites. There are often sixty or more entries and over two hundred ballots cast. This year, 1st prize is a $100 Gift Card, 2nd prize is a stainless steel Foley Food Mill, and 3rd prize is a Nesco Dehydrator & Jerky Maker. The winning recipe will be posted on our website in the Recipe Box section - check it out for some winning recipes from previous years, as well. This event is free and open to the public.

4th Annual Pickle Contest and Tasting

Oct 13,
10 am - 1 pm

Our annual pickle contest and tasting takes place on the second Saturday in October. It's a newer event than the Jam Contest, but gaining in popularity. Enter by Friday, October 12, and show up on the 13th to taste. Check in for some wild concoctions, because the pickle people are even more serious than the jammers. 1st prize is a 5 gal. pickling crock, 2nd prize is a Forschner chef's knife, and 3rd prize is a stainless steel heavy-duty box grater. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday Workshops

Bonsai Basics
with Margaret Parker

Margaret will again present her popular bonsai talk. She'll discuss caring for and pruning bonsai, plus how to create bonsai from specimens growing in your own backyard. Free and open to the public.

June 2,
10 am - Noon

Big Green Egg Cookout
with Matt Banks

Chef Matt will smoke a beef brisket and a pork shoulder overnight, and then serve up succulent tastes and grilling tips to any and all who visit on Saturday. Free and open to the public.

June 23,
10 am - Noon

The Perfect Egg
with Mark Hodesh

Mark teaches how to cook a perfect egg: over-easy, straight up, scrambled, poached, and soft-boiled, all performed on our 1935 Magic Chef stove right here at the store. Free and open to the public.

July 14,
9 am - Noon

Mark's Carts Cook-Off

It's our 2nd Annual Mark's Carts Cook-Off sponsered by Le Creuset enameled iron French cookware, Mark's Carts, and Downtown Home & Garden. The cart vendors will compete for prizes, and you, the tasting and voting public, will pick the winner. Last year, the Hut K cart won first prize with their Indian food. We had a huge crowd and lots of fun. Our own Matt Banks will add something tasty cooked on a Big Green Egg smoker grill and I'll reach into my past life as a cook for an offering too.

September 8,
11 am - 1 pm

Kingsley-Bate Teak Furniture

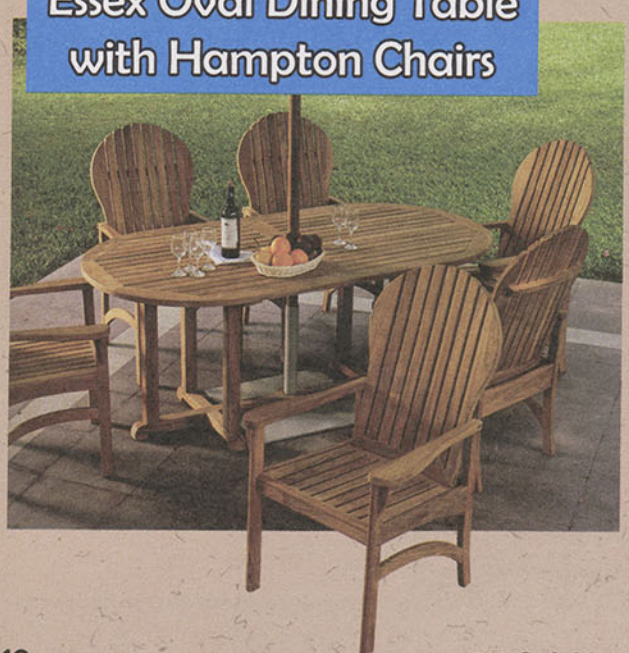
Of course, our success rides on customer satisfaction. What else matters? That's why we have sold Kingsley-Bate teak furniture for 12 years. It is stylish, well made from plantation-grown teak, and the company is easy to work with.

But, most importantly, our customers love it.

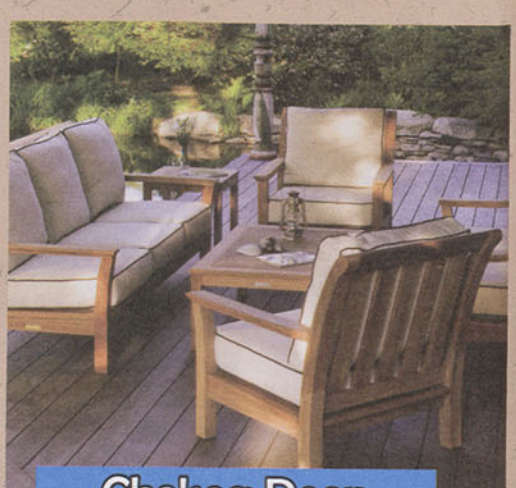
Teak Furniture

Derby Garden Bench

Essex Oval Dining Table with Hampton Chairs



Tough Enough for Outdoors, Stylish Enough for Indoors

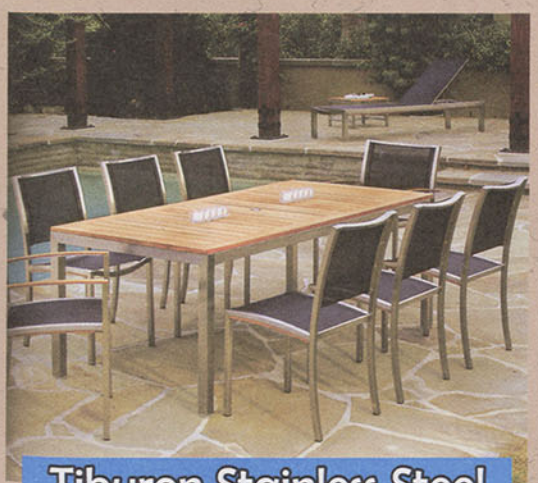


Chelsea Deep Seating Group

210 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

...e in Our New Greenhouse

Sag Harbor Woven All-Weather Deep Seating Group



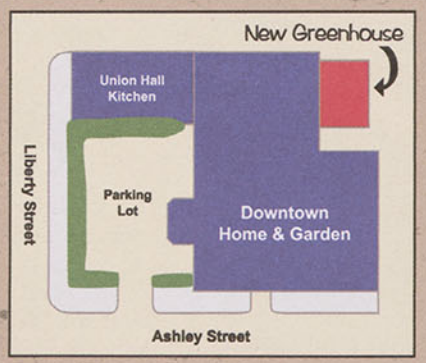
Tiburon Stainless Steel and Teak Dining Group

About Teak

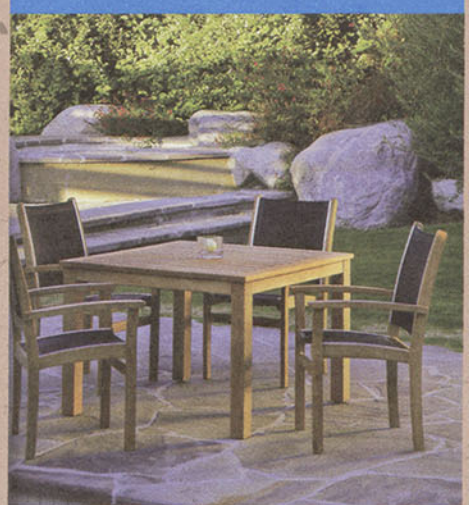
Teak is the most durable outdoor furniture wood because its high natural oil content repels harsh weather. We chose Kingsley-Bate as our teak supplier years ago. They use only plantation-grown teak and only the heartwood, which is the densest part of the tree. Compare the weight to similar pieces from other companies. We're proud to sell it and you'll be proud to own it.

Our New Greenhouse

Kingsley-Bate furniture is so successful for us that we've given it premier display space in our new greenhouse behind the store, facing Mark's Carts. This has given us the room we need to display more furniture in a beautiful spot that opens up to a view of the west side of Ann Arbor.



St. Tropez Mesh-Back Teak Chairs



Seeds ~ Plants ~ Organic Fertilizer ~ Canning Supplies ~ Furniture

Bistro Cafe Tables and Chairs

Bistro Sets from the streets of Paris. Tres chic... red wine... can you hear the accordion? Powder-coated steel in cobalt blue, poppy red, green and black. Fold for storage.

24" Table $175
Folding Chairs $80

Zero-Gravity Recliners

We sell hundreds of Faulkner zero-gravity reclining chairs every year. They're foldable, portable, super-comfortable loungers that make your back feel good and your heart relax. Available with either a padded or mesh sling, in green or black.

Regular Size $99.95
Large Size $119.95

Kick Back

Pop-Up Butterfly Chair

This mesh sling chair is our most portable chair - it collapses to about the size of an umbrella. Great for the beach or the soccer match.

Decorative Metal

More cool '50s stuff. These metal bucket chairs are meant for sitting up, conversing or sipping a drink. They're not so comfortable for slouching. Available in distressed white or aqua, they stack for storage. They're an incredible value. I only ordered sixty for the season - I'm scrambling to get more now. Don't miss out!

Chair $50
Side Table $35

Please Note:
The prices in this manual may have changed since the time we went to press in mid-February. Call, email, or stop by the store for current prices.

Eucalyptus Furniture

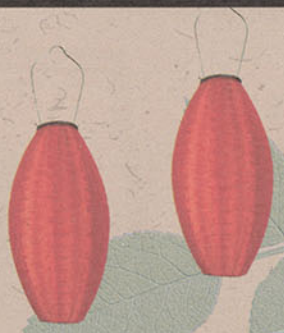
Inexpensive and nice looking. It's built well enough to last years and years on a covered porch or, with annual staining, it will serve you well on the patio, too. Most pieces fold for easy storage.

Adirondack $185
Folding Chair w/ Arms $85
Drop-Leaf Round Table $200

Hammocks

Trouble sleeping at night? Can't nap? Still tired? You need a hammock. Lights out. Most of our Pawleys Island Hammocks are made in America of cotton, polyester or Duracord. Caution: cats hate 'em.

From $150



Solar Lanterns

From $21

Made in the Shade

Umbrellas

Our top quality 7.5 ft. and 9 ft. market umbrellas have aluminum frames and Sunbrella fabric that resists fading and mildew. The 9 ft. umbrellas also have an auto-tilt feature that allows you to easily tip the umbrella toward the sun for early-morning or late-afternoon shade.

7.5 ft. Umbrella	$65.00
9 ft. Tilt Umbrella w/ Sunbrella Fabric	$299.00

Retro Chairs for Retro Dude

These retro steel chairs will gently rock you right back to your grandma's porch. They come in delicious '50s colors: Aqua, Coral, Seafoam and Red.

Retro Chairs $85

for Easy Livin'

Weather-Resistant
Tablecloths

From $20

Weather-Resistant
Mariachi Rugs

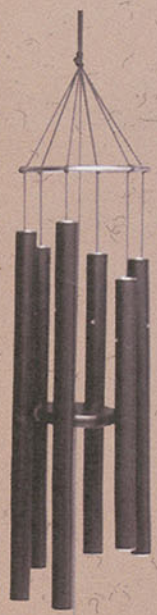
4x6 $42
5x8 $80

Romantic Candle Lanterns

From $20

Wind Chimes

A plethora of wind chimes casting soft tones all across the land.



Window Boxes

Window boxes or English hayracks will perk up the outside of your house. Get them a few inches wider than the windows above them. Filled with blooming annuals or foliage, they can redefine your home.

The window boxes above the awnings at our store draw photographers, painters, and "oohs" and "aahs" all summer.

Planters & Ornaments

Vietnamese Pottery

A decade ago, we were the first store to bring hand-glazed, wood-fired Vietnamese pots to Ann Arbor. Since then, the big box stores have gotten into the market, but they sell mass-glazed, gas-fired pots that lack the interesting variation and vibrant traditional colors which ours have. Profusely blooming annuals spilling out of a Vietnamese pot provide a strong accent to a deck or front walk.

Stoic Chicken

Garden Accents

We've got some nice small statuary made of granite or cast stone. Some of it is Victorian inspired, some Asian. Also check out our granite benches, bird baths and lanterns. They are weather-hardy.

Hats
Gotcha Covered

Our hat business is legendary. It started humbly with a couple of straw hats for gardening, but every year the choices have expanded and fashion and function have joined. Some of our customers come from 50 miles away and further. Advertising photos don't do justice to the selection because the hat is just half the story. It's the hat on your head and how it amplifies your bearing that is amazing. Trying on hats is a lot of fun, especially with a friend. You never know what you'll discover.

Lookin' Good
in the Garden and on the Avenue

Tilley Hats

Tilley hats are guaranteed for life against wearing out, shrinking and mildew. They float, have a secret pocket, and come with an owner's manual. Tilley claims one of his hats was eaten and digested three times by an elephant in a zoo. After each event, it was retrieved without major damage, washed and worn again by its proud owner. Available from $79.

Garden & Work Gloves

From inexpensive throwaways to really good protection for your hands.

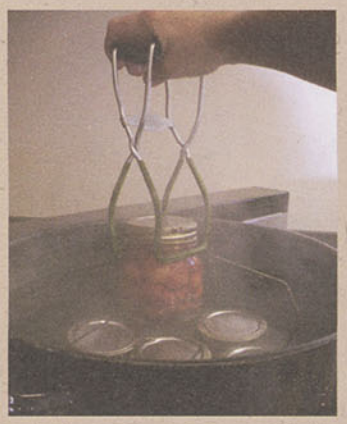
Muck Boots

The Original Muck Boot Company makes a lightweight slip-on shoe that's great for tromping around your garden in the morning dew or walking in the woods. It's waterproof and has a removable insole so you can hose off your shoes. For wading into the high grass, we also carry the much taller Edgewater boot and the half-height Scrub boot. On hot days, turn down the top of your tall boot to let in some extra air.

Daily Shoe	$59.95
Edgewater Camp Shoe	$79.95
Scrub Boot	$84.95
Edgewater Hi-Boot	$104.95

Totes

There's nothing like a stylish tote bag to set the tone. Even Lady Gaga would be jealous.



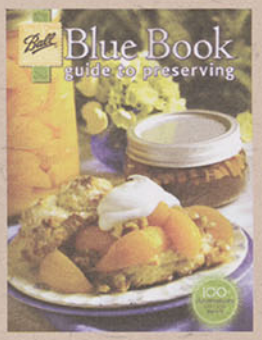
Water Bath Canners

This is the basic tool for sterilizing your canning project. A sustained temperature of 212° F will kill the bacteria in acidic foods. Each Granite-ware canner comes with a metal rack to hold your jars securely.

21 Qt Canner $21.99
33 Qt Canner $36.99

Ball Jars

We carry every size of jar that Ball makes, plus replacement lids. We invite you to compare our very competitive prices on all Ball jars.



The Canning Authority

Weck Jars

These German canning jars have beautiful shapes that make whatever you preserve to give as gifts even more special.

From Seed

Canning Tools

Ball Blue Book
Canning Funnel
Regular Jar Lids
Wide Jar Lids
Jar Lifter
Cheese Cloth
Fruit Pectin
Sugar-Free Pectin
Liquid Pectin
Pomona's Pectin

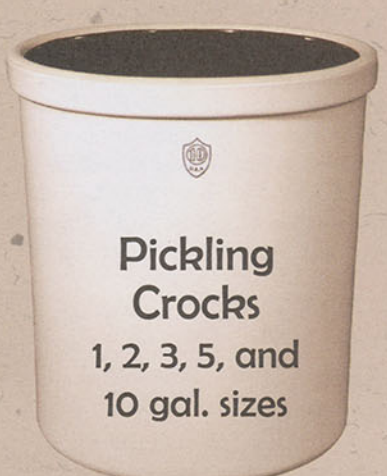
Canning supplies are a growing part of our business. These days, of course, people don't rely on preserving their harvest to get through the winter like they once did. Most of the supplies we sell are used for making specialty preserves you can't buy in the store, and wonderful gifts!

Citric Acid

An ingredient in many canning recipes, it's been hard to find in recent years. We now have it!

Presto Pressure Canners

Pressure cookers are necessary to get food that is low in acid up to safe canning temperatures, above 212°F. Low acid foods include some tomatoes, sauces and relishes, meat, chicken, poultry, green and waxed beans, lima beans, beets, carrots, corn, and greens.



Pickling Crocks

1, 2, 3, 5, and 10 gal. sizes

The fall Jam Tasting Contest last year drew 79 different entries and a couple hundred happy judges.

to Table

Foley Food Mill

I love my stainless steel Foley Food Mill. Texture has so much to do with the enjoyment of food. For mashed potatoes, the Foley puffs the potatoes right through the screen, making them light and fluffy. No need to enrage the potatoes' starch with whipping or mashing. And for applesauce, cook the apples with skins on to give the sauce color. The Foley will push the pulp right through the screen while separating out the skins. Gives soups a smooth texture, too.

2 Qt $42.99
3.5 Qt $49.99

Polish Pottery

Bolesławiec stoneware originated as Polish folk art. Each piece is hand-painted with a cheerful design that incorporates the iridescent eye markings of the peacock feather. It's dishwasher, microwave, and oven-safe. We have the largest collection in town. Collectors can sign up at the store or on our website to receive email notifications when new orders come in.

Salt & Pepper Mills

Freshly ground pepper, ahh. I love it on meat, fish, soup, vegetables, salads, nearly everything - including hot cereal. I'm addicted. We stock classic grinders from Peugeot, affordable crushers from William Bounds, and a line with looks inspired by Native American totems from PepArt.

Knives

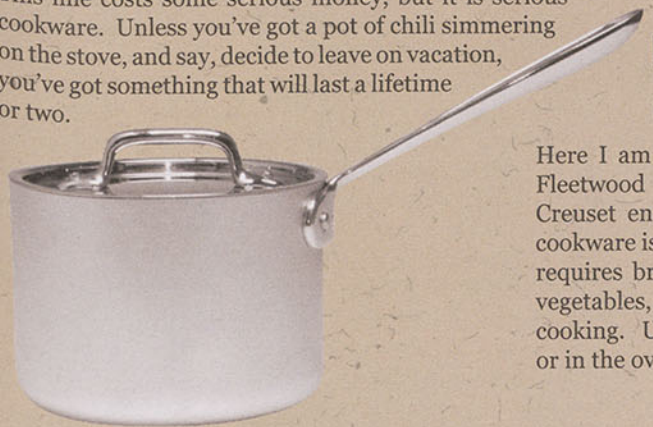
J.A. Henckels makes superb, stainless steel German cutlery (pictured), which we've sold for years. If you're looking for an affordable knife, *Cook's Illustrated* gave our newer Forschner knives five stars. They are workable, functional kitchen tools, and their textured black plastic handles are dishwasher safe.

Lodge Cookware

Basic is beautiful. Lodge Cast Iron cookware provides even heat and holds it when cold foods are introduced, which prevents sticking. Every well-equipped kitchen needs a couple of iron frying pans. And to make things even easier, the pieces we stock now come pre-seasoned and ready to use.

All-Clad Cookware

This line costs some serious money, but it is serious cookware. Unless you've got a pot of chili simmering on the stove, and say, decide to leave on vacation, you've got something that will last a lifetime or two.



Le Creuset Cookware

Here I am serving original recipe Fleetwood Diner chili from a Le Creuset enameled iron pot. This cookware is tops for any recipe that requires browning meat, sweating vegetables, and then long, slow cooking. Use on stovetop burners or in the oven.

Tube Feeders

This is a tube feeder, and this particular style has very small holes in it for thistle seed. Goldfinches go crazy for thistle seed, but don't worry, it won't grow into thistles if they drop any in your yard.

Toledo Scale

Our Toledo scale has been telling the truth since 1929. Honest. We use it every day. We'll weigh up any amount of bird seed you want - just a couple of pounds to feed the pigeons, no problem. We also sell bird seed in 50 lb. bags if you're stocking up for the winter and want to save a buck.

We're all about the Birds

Bird Houses

Feeding birds brings you close to one aspect of their lives. A bird house gives you another view. Back and forth, bits of string, straw, maybe mud to hold it together, and then morsels of food. Eventually, little peeps, scrawny heads peering out, and finally twitter, flitter-flap, flap and off they go.

Cedar Fly-Thru Feeder

This is a fly-through feeder. It's my favorite because, if it's mounted on a pole, we can show you how to make it positively squirrel proof. I also love it because it's stable and you can attract both ground feeding birds (cardinals, bluejays, juncos, wrens) and clinging birds (woodpeckers, nuthatches, flickers). $31

Birdbaths

Birds need water to bathe in. Remember, birds wade, they don't swim. Our birdbaths have gently sloping sides to encourage them. Don't put too much water in your birdbath and change it every couple of days.

The Trouble With Squirrels

Squirrels are strong and agile, but not really very smart. Except for a short mating season, they have just one thing on their mind: eating. They have unlimited time to apply their pea-brains to robbing your feeder. A squirrel will slide down an 11' wire, jump laterally 6', or vertically 4' to get to your feeder. You have to place your feeder outside those limits or with a squirrel baffle to shut down those avenues. Hang your feeder on a chain or wire either 11' long, or on a shorter wire with a squirrel baffle above it. As long as a squirrel can't jump to the feeder from the sides, you're safe. You can also put your feeder on a pole at least 6' from anything that would allow a horizontal attack and with a squirrel baffle just under the feeder. When he slides back down the pole in defeat with sad brown eyes downcast, you will feel warm and fuzzy all over.

Gift Registry

Have a special day coming up? If you're interested in setting up a Downtown Home & Garden gift registry, we'll help you fill out our gift registry form.

Just browse through the store and pick out the items you like, and we'll take care of the rest.

We Giftwrap - Just Ask!

Gift Cards

Our stylish Gift Cards work just like a credit card - use them for any merchandise here at the store. Can't get down to the store to buy one? You can purchase a gift card right on our website and we'll drop it in the mail at no extra charge.

Seasons Prints

Margaret Parker designs the covers of our newsletters then makes a print in a limited edition of 50. 19 of the past covers are available at the store, including the cover of this newsletter.

Framed $125

Unframed $75

A Couple of Downtown Characters

When I come to work in the winter, I turn on the electric space heater and my computer, and then pull a chair up beside me. Pretty soon Lewis comes along, hops up to enjoy the warmth, and starts dictating letters. There we are, the two of us, creatures side by side, each with our own idea of comfort and purpose. What he could never understand is that in an hour, I'm going down to the Y and jumping into the pool.

From the left. Top row: Sarah, Mark, and Sylvia. Middle: David, Kelly, Lewis the Cat, Barb, Matt, Brian, and Charlie. Bottom: Bill, Kristin, and Margaret.

Thank you for your continued endorsement of our style of doing business and our values. Once again, you have carried us through a tough economic year to record sales. We feel grateful that you accept us as members of the community, and really, that is the point. Success, to us, means being participants in and contributors to our vibrant downtown.

DOWNTOWN HOME & GARDEN

210 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 662-8122
downtownhomeandgarden.com
Mon-Sat 7:30-7:00 Sun 11:00-4:00

EarthBox Garden Kit

The EarthBox is a nearly fool-proof complete container gardening system - once you set it up and plant it, all it needs is light and water. It utilizes a reservoir in the bottom of the box to water plants from below so you don't need to worry about over-watering, and you can leave it unattended for the weekend. When you plant the box, you lay down a strip of slow-release fertilizer which will last for the entire season. All this taken together means you'll get higher vegetable and herb yields with a small footprint, perfect for a patio or deck.

EarthBox Organic Garden Kit $54.99

Rainbarrels

I'm not sure if capturing runoff rain in a rainbarrel is going keep Allen Creek from blowing manhole covers off our storm drains or save our ecosystem, but it might, and it certainly won't hurt. A more tangible benefit is how much your plants will love naturally soft, unchlorinated water. We have several styles, sizes and colors to choose from, plus diverters to get the rain from your downspouts to the barrel.

75 gal. Rainbarrel $175.00
65 gal. Rainbarrel (w/Planter) $199.99
50 gal. Rainbarrel (w/Planter) $139.99

Big Green Egg

The Big Green Egg is the ultimate backyard cooker. People who own one are almost cult-like in their devotion to it. It's more than a grill because its thick ceramic walls absorb and then radiate heat, like an oven. This allows you to slow-cook or smoke cuts of meat like brisket and shoulder roasts - flavorful cuts which would otherwise be tough. Celebrity chef Mario Batali uses his for pizzas and paella. Check out the owner comments online - they're a hoot. And compare our delivered and set up price to any other retailer, large or small. Available in four sizes, with many different accessories. Shown here with optional stand and side shelves, Chef Mike Monahan not included.

Big Green Egg Grill & Smoker (size Large) $799.00

Get lots more product information at downtownhomeandgarden.com

133rd season ums 11/12

Pavel Haas Quartet
Joseph Gramley percussion
Wednesday \ April 18 \ 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Tchaikovsky	Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11 (1871)
Smetana	Quartet No. 1 in e minor ("From My Life") (1876)
Pavel Haas	Quartet No. 2, Op. 7 ("From the Monkey Mountains") (1925)

Sponsored by McMullen Properties

Media Partner **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

Snow White
Ballet Preljocaj
Angelin Preljocaj artistic director
Jean Paul Gaultier costume designer
Thursday \ April 19 \ 7:30 pm
Friday \ April 20 \ 8 pm
Saturday \ April 21 \ 8 pm
Power Center

It's been more than a decade since Ballet Preljocaj (pronounced prezh-oh-kahzh) made its UMS debut, but this production of *Snow White*, created in 2008, will be well worth the wait. Angelin Preljocaj has created a work for all 26 dancers of his contemporary ballet company, setting the Grimm brothers' version of the fairytale to the most beautiful scores of Gustav Mahler's symphonies. With costumes designed by Jean Paul Gaultier, this production of *Snow White* is sure to shake up those who have grown up with only the Disney version at their disposal.

Please note: Snow White *is a grown-up retelling of Grimms' fairy tale. Due to brief nudity and mature themes, it is not appropriate for young audiences.*

Sponsored by **Gil Omenn and Martha Darling.**
Media Partners **Metro Times** and **Between the Lines.**

2012 Ford Honors Program
Joshua Bell leader and violin
Academy of St. Martin in the Fields
Sunday \ April 22 \ 4 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Beethoven	Coriolan Overture, Op. 62 (1807)
Beethoven	Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61 (1806)
Beethoven	Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92 (1811-12)

Sponsored by Ford **Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services**

DTE Energy Foundation Educator and School of the Year Awards are sponsored by **DTE Energy Foundation**

Concertmasters **Bank of Ann Arbor, Tom and Kathy Goldberg,** and **University of Michigan Health System.**
Leaders **Mainstreet Ventures** and **Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, P.L.C.**
Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM, WRCJ 90.9 FM,** and **Detroit Jewish News.**

Explore. Interact. Create.

Institute for the Humanities Brownbag Series:
William Bolcom, "Maverick American Music"
Tuesday \ April 3 \ 12:30 pm
202 S. Thayer St, Room 2022

Presented by the U-M Institute for the Humanities.

WCED Panel: Beyond Visegrad
Tuesday \ April 17 \ 4 pm
Rackham Auditorium

A conversation featuring former presidents Rudolf Schuster (Slovak Republic), Aleksander Kwaśniewski (Poland); and former prime minister Petr Pithart (Czech Republic).

Presented by the U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.

CREES Noon Lecture:
Jewish Music in the Time of the Holocaust
Wednesday \ April 18 \ 12 pm
1636 International Institute, School of Social Work Building, 1080 S. University

Anticipating UMS's presentation of the Pavel Haas Quartet, this event will first examine the life and works of the award-winning Czech Jewish composer Pavel Haas (1899–1944), who continued to compose songs while interred at the Terezín concentration camp. The lecture will then extend to other Jewish composers across Europe, contemplating their individual, unique stories, how their careers before the war and their nationalities played a major role in the formation of their compositional voices, and how World War II affected their lives and music. Moderator: Timothy Cheek, associate professor of voice, U-M. Presenters: Caroline Helton, assistant professor of voice; Kathryn Goodson, piano; Allen Schrott, bass-baritone.

Presented and sponsored by the U-M Center for European Studies, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, and the Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies.

Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at arborweb.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

Arbor Brewing Company

114 E. Washington 213–1393

This downtown brewpub features occasional live music, 8 p.m.–midnight unless otherwise noted. No cover, no dancing. **Apr. 4: "Essential Listening Party."** *Acoustic Café* host Rob Reinhart spins and discusses some new music. The program concludes at 8:30 p.m. with an acoustic set by **Drew De Four,** a local singer-songwriter and pianist whose influences range from Ray Charles to Peter Gabriel to the Afghan Whigs. 7–9 p.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761–1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, and the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com), and theark.org; and at the door. **Apr 1: California Guitar Trio.** The trio of Bert Lams, Paul Richards, and Hideyo Moriya first got together as members of Robert Fripp's League of Crafty Guitarists and struck out on their own in 1991, when they began playing in California clubs and coffeehouses. Known for its stunning virtuosity and sly sense of humor, the trio plays a brand of progressive acoustic music that fuses classical, jazz, blues, country, rock, and even surf styles. In addition to several originals, its repertoire ranges from an adaptation of a Bach lute prelude and a virtuoso cover of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" to a medley of the western standard "Ghost Riders in the Sky" and the Doors' "Riders on the Storm." $25. **Apr. 4: A.J. Croce.** The son of 70s icon Jim Croce, Croce is a singer-pianist whose repertoire includes traditional blues, jazz, and R&B tunes and stylish, alternately wry and whimsical originals composed in traditional styles. $15. **Apr. 5: Peggy Seeger.** Like her brother Mike and half-brother Pete, Seeger has been a pivotal figure in the American and English folk scene since the 50s. Her repertoire features both traditional Anglo-American ballads and lyrical songs and originals like the feminist anthem "I'm Gonna Be an Engineer." She sings in a clear soprano, and her guitar and banjo arrangements are known for their tasteful, inventive adaptations of traditional styles. Seeger, who lives in the UK, has announced that this is her final American tour. $15. **Apr. 6: Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys.** The 84-year-old Stanley is an ace clawhammer-style banjoist who also possesses one of the most stirring, starkly authoritative voices in all of country music, a sweetly lonesome, mournfully soulful tenor that's the perfect instrument for his repertoire of Appalachian folk ballads, blues, and gospel tunes—some of which he composed himself or in collaboration with his late brother, Carter Stanley. A longtime icon among folk and country musicians, Stanley gained the attention of mainstream audiences with his appearance on the Grammy-winning *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* soundtrack. His 2006 CD *A Distant Land to Roam* is an acclaimed collection of 13 Carter Family gems. $35. **Apr. 7: Seth Glier.** Singer-songwriter, guitarist, and pianist from western Massachusetts with a powerful falsetto and captivating melodic sense who was featured in the 2009 Prairie Home Companion "People in Their 20s" contest. $15. **Apr. 9: Big Bad Voodoo Daddy.** A jazz, blues, swing, and soul gumbo by this veteran New Orleans band, led by vocalist Scotty Morris, that helped ignite the 90s swing craze. The band's repertoire covers everything from the music of Professor Longhair, Fats Domino, Louis Armstrong, and New Orleans brass bands to the world's first male-vocal version of the Blue Lu Barker classic "Don't You Feel My Leg." The band's latest CD, *How Big Can You Get?,* is a tribute to Cab Calloway. $35. **Apr. 10: Mississippi Heat.** Vintage 50s-style Chicago blues by this internationally acclaimed band fronted by Inetta Visor, a powerhouse vocalist in the tradition of Etta James and Koko Taylor, and Pierre Lacocque, a Belgian blues harpist known for the subtlety of his solos and his hawklike tonal power. "Once in a blue moon a band like this comes along. Mississippi Heat's got the quality that gives you the gutbucket, gizzard-rip feel with each and every song. You just want to stop whatever the hell important thing you're doing and get down and boogie when these blues jump off those speakers," says *American Harmonica Newsletter* reviewer Rick Shidell. $15. **Apr. 12: Galant, tu perds ton temps.** All-female a cappella quintet from Quebec whose repertoire draws on the treasury of stories and poetry of French-Canadian folk songs. The singing is accompanied by step dancer Jean-Francois Berthiaume, who also plays foot percussion, Irish bodhran, bones, and spoons. $15. **Apr. 13: Cowboy Junkies.** *Sold out.* **Apr. 14 & 15: "Mr. B's Piano Celebration."** Ann Arbor's own world-renowned blues pianist, Mark "Mr. B" Braun, hosts 2 nights of blues and boogie-woogie piano featuring guest appearances by Cincinnati blues, boogie woogie, and New Orleans jazz pianist **Ricky Nye** and **Bob Seeley,** a veteran Detroit blues pianist known for his electrifying, passionate renditions of boogie classics. The show features solo sets by each performer, followed by a series of duets. Also, at 2 p.m. on Apr. 14, Mr. B presents a lecture-demo ($20) on **"The History of the Piano Blues and How to Play Them."** $25. 7:30 p.m. (Apr. 14 & 15). **Apr. 16: The Tannahill Weavers.** Veteran Scottish quintet that plays traditional Celtic music with the rhythmic drive and urgency of rock 'n' roll. The instrumentation is a rich blend of stringed and wind instruments, including Highland pipes. $20. **Apr. 17: Good Old War.** Catchy, musically refined folk-rock with flawless vocal harmonies by this Phildelphia trio that, according to allmusic.com, "manages to sound like the Flaming Lips fronted by Paul Simon." The band has a brand-new CD, *Come Back as Rain.* Opening act is **The Belle Brigade,** an L.A.-based brother-sister folk-rock duo that sounds like Simon & Garfunkel. They made their local debut opening for k.d. lang at the 2011 Ann Arbor Summer Festival. $17. **Apr 18: The Guggenheim Grotto.** Acclaimed Dublin pop-folk trio known for its soaring melodies and gorgeous vocal harmonies. "With debts to both Radiohead and the Beatles, this is modern, intelligent, lyrically potent pop," says a *Boston Herald* reviewer. "Nearly the only thing overtly Irish about the Grotto is its love affair with words." $15. **Apr. 19: Anais Mitchell.** Acclaimed young pop-folk singer-songwriter from rural Vermont with a deceptively girlish voice whose songs feature emotionally direct, meticulously written lyrics that blend searching introspection and keen observation. *No Depression* reviewer Russell Hall praises her "intimate songs that feel spindly on the outside but sturdy at the core." Opening act is **Cuddle Magic,** a Brooklyn/Philadelphia chamber pop collective. $15. **Apr. 20: Loudon Wainwright III.** This veteran singer-songwriter is known for his mordant, occasionally bitterly self-mocking, often poignant, and usually very funny original songs about himself, other people, and contemporary culture. His recent CD *Strange Weirdos: Music from and Inspired by the Film "Knocked Up"* provoked *New Yorker* reviewer Ben Greenman to observe that "[Wainwright] has not only retained his sharpness of wit but has also learned to cut with greater skill," and the brand-new *Older than My Old Man* is a collection of meditative songs about aging. $20. **Apr. 21: The Elders.** Celtic-influenced roots-rock by this acclaimed Kansas City ensemble that's fronted by Ian Byrne, a charismatic Irishman from County Wicklow. "The key to the band's success is in its flawless blending of the Celtic storytelling tradition with contemporary instrumentation and, perhaps more importantly, their ability to write original songs that sound as timeless and authentic as the ancient jigs and reels that have inspired them," says *Paste Magazine* reviewer Brian Baker. $17.50. **Apr. 22: James Hunter.** English R&B singer-songwriter and guitarist with a smooth, tight, deliciously full vocal style that draws on Jackie Wilson, Sam Cooke, Ray Charles, and other classic 50s R&B singers—Van Morrison calls him "one of the best voices, and best-kept secrets, in British R&B and soul." "An anomaly in 2006 with its mini sax section and sparse, danceable songs, the album nonetheless shimmers with hip-shaking grooves," says *All Music Guide* critic Hal Horowitz in his review of Hunter's 2006 CD *People Gonna Talk.* "Although the disc is decidedly retro, it exudes classy, cool fun that feels timeless." $20. **Apr. 23: Lambchop.** Veteran idiosyncratic, irreducibly contrary alt-country by this veteran Nashville band led by singer-songwriter Kurt Wagner that's known both for its restless subversions of the conventional musical boundaries of country and its fidelity to country's signature struggle to make sense of life's vicissitudes. "Wagner's voice is a low, wounded-sounding instrument whose character has only deepened with time. His lyrics are a mix of minor, concrete observations and poetic flights … His writing has the power to transform the everyday into a mystery, but his voice—and the music behind it—attempts to transform the mystery into something unplugged and emotionally direct," says *Pitchfork* critic Mike Powell in his review of the band's new CD, *Mr. M.* Opening act is **Kelly Jean Caldwell,** a local folk-rock singer-songwriter. $20. **Apr. 25: Johnny Winter.** Winter is a Texas native who, when he was discovered in the late 60s, was hailed as the best young white blues guitarist—which meant he was supposed to be better than Eric Clapton and other English kids who'd been stealing American rockers' thunder for most of the decade. Which meant he was the first Stevie Ray Vaughan. As with Vaughan, the music Winter plays is not blues-rock but authentic blues, mixing Texas flash and Memphis raunch with Chicago grit. Steve Byrne of the *Cleveland Scene* calls *I'm a Bluesman,* Winter's 2009 CD, "as raw and rugged as anything the man has done." He comes to town with the brand-new CD *Roots,* a collection of some of the postwar blues and seminal rock 'n' roll he grew up on. $40. **Apr. 26: Dougie MacLean.** A former member of the Tannahill Weavers and Silly Wizard who was dubbed "Scotland's greatest living songwriter" by *Celtic World,* MacLean is known for an extravagant lyricism that draws on Celtic traditions on both sides of the Atlantic. His best-known song, "Caledonia," has been called Scotland's second national anthem. He's a virtuoso on guitar, bouzouki, Scottish fiddle, and Australian didgeridoo, and his repertoire also includes traditional Scottish songs. $30. **Apr. 27: Horse Feathers.** Country-folk chamber quartet from Portland (OR) led by Idaho-bred singer-songwriter Justin Ringle. "Horse Feathers constructs music out of fragile whispers and half-remembered dreams, eagerly filling in the gaps between Sufjan Stevens and Iron & Wine on the American indie-folk continuum," says *Paste Magazine* writer Matt Fink in his review of *House with No Home,* the band's 2008

bluegrass

Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys

Musical marriages

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys have been playing all over the state during the last year or so, and they're coming in April for three Ann Arbor shows in one week: at the Circus on April 11 and April 18, and at Wolverine Brewing on the 14th. The band plays a quite a bit of straight bluegrass, minus a fiddle. With the sweet memory of Dick Dieterle of the RFD Boys in mind, it's heartening to know that, for the first time since that band's heyday, you can often now hear traditional bluegrass songs "Shady Grove" and "Can't You Hear Me Callin'" two or three times a week in Ann Arbor, and that the music is now in the good hands of talented young people.

The Flatbellys started out as an all-male college bluegrass band in Lansing, where after graduating they were given new direction by the arrival of Lindsay Rachel Petroff at an open mic night at Dagwood's Tavern. Her experiences included growing up in the U.P. in a musical family where, she says, she "started performing for anyone who asked no later than she had learned to walk and talk." She did a term as an undergrad in Ecuador and studied at Interlochen, and all these experiences left marks on her music. She's got a clear, agile voice that can handle the tricky female bluegrass falsetto register as well as belting in the lower ranges. She writes songs in Spanish from time to time. And as a leader she has the elusive ability, often bred in the family, to seem to be shaping what's happening on stage even when she's not singing.

"I married my mandolin player," Lindsay Lou explained when I saw the band recently at Bell's Brewery in Kalamazoo. Since becoming Lindsay Rilko, her songwriting has taken a turn toward the romantic, but she also writes about a moonshine-making ancestor, a female bank robber, and more, and the band mixes these up with not only bluegrass classics but also songs by John Hartford and Gillian Welch, two figures that loom in the background of today's vibrant bluegrass revival.

The show hangs together thanks to Lindsay Lou's voice, the overall musicianship, and the appealing quality of these young people who are discovering the classics of rural American music for themselves. Whether they can take it to the next level depends on whether they can integrate the traditional bluegrass with Lindsay Lou's songwriting, which connects with bluegrass but takes off from it at a kind of idiosyncratic angle. The new songs I heard in Kalamazoo showed her wrestling with ways to do just that, and the effort from the members of this hot Michigan band ought to provide an interesting look into the dynamic between music and marriage.

—James M. Manheim

debut on the Kill Rock Stars label. $15. **Apr. 28: Heywood Banks.** Heywood Banks is the stage name of Howell native Stuart Mitchell, a very animated comedian known for his silly musical spoofs, goofy prop humor, and sight gags. Since adopting the nerdy, quietly psychotic Banks persona in the mid-80s, he has risen from a regional favorite to a national star. A longtime local favorite—he even played a few shows at Rick's American Cafe before becoming a Thanksgiving weekend mainstay at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. $25. 7 p.m. **Apr. 29: Caroline Herring.** Up-and-coming Mississippi-bred, Austin-based country-folk singer-songwriter known for her luminous, strikingly expressive vocals and her vividly etched songs about the everyday lives of people in the contemporary South. The *Austin Chronicle* calls her recent CD *Lantana* "the best modern Southern Gothic since Lucinda Williams." $15.

The B-Side
310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. April schedule TBA.

Bar Louie
401 E. Liberty **794–3000**

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 8–11:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl.

The Black Pearl
302 S. Main **222–0400**

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Apr. 4: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **Apr. 11 & 18: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley. Apr. 25: Lucas Paul.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter, accompanied by keyboardist Adam Rogers.

The Blind Pig
208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8-Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **Every Tues.** (except Apr. 3)**: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands each week TBA. **Apr. 1: David Choi.** *All ages admitted.* L.A. singer-songwriter known for his pop-rock love ballads. Opening act is **Wolfie Complex,** a local quartet, fronted by singer-guitarist Wolfie Geske, whose music mixes folk, jazz, and hip-hop. Advance tickets: $12. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Apr. 3: Dom Kennedy.** *All ages admitted.* L.A. hip-hop MC. Opening acts are **Rich Hil,** a NYC hip-hop MC, and **Poly,** a hip-hop MC. Advance tickets: $15. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Apr. 4: Margot & the Nuclear So & So's.** Critically acclaimed chamber pop-rock sextet from Indianapolis. Opening acts are **Writer,** a Brooklyn (NY) indie rock band, and **Sveta Bout,** a Brooklyn (NY) indie pop singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). **Apr. 5: Runeship of the Rhyme Traveler.** Ypsilanti psychedelic folk-rock trio. Opening acts are the local funk-rock jam quartet **Teenage Octopus,** the Ypsilanti indie rock band **The Vagrant Symphony,** the Kent (OH) postpunk folk-rock duo **Kralik & Josh Hisle,** and **Jo Pye Whyld,** an Ypsilanti band led by singer-songwriter Hope Thomas that plays dark, moody pop. **Apr. 6: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Apr. 7: "41st Annual Hash Bash."** Headliner is **The Macpodz,** an immensely popular local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening acts are poet and local countercultural icon **John Sinclair,** the Big Rapids progressive-funk jam band **UV Hippo,** and the Oakland (CA) postgrunge rock quartet **Christian Rawk.** Advance tickets: $15. 8:30 p.m.–2 a.m. **Apr. 9: The English Beat.** One of the finest rock bands to emerge from the UK in the late 70s, this septet played a leading role in domesticating the nervy rhythms of Jamaican ska for a pop ethos. Their music features an unusually successful blend of bouncy, deliriously good-time dance riffs with strikingly articulate lyrics on sociopolitical themes. The current lineup features just one original member, frontman Dave Wakeling. Advance tickets: $20. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Apr. 11: Caveman.** Brooklyn (NY) New Wave Afrobeat band. Opening acts are **Night Moves,** a country-flavored electro-soul quintet from Minneapolis, and another band TBA. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **Apr. 12:** TBA. **Apr. 13:** TBA. **Apr. 14: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Apr. 18: Encanti.** Boston-based electronic musician from Alaska, a member of the multimedia duo Encanti Zebbler Experience, who's known for his glitchy, bass-heavy beats and interspersed vocals. Opening acts are Detroit dubstep DJs **Serax** and **Satta Don Dada. Apr. 19: The Werks.** Dayton funk-rock jam band. Opening acts TBA. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **Apr. 20: Devin the Dude.** Acclaimed Houston underground hip-hop MC whom *New York Times* music critic Kelefa Sanneh calls "a brilliant odd-ball with a spaced-out flow," Opening act is **Coughee Brothaz,** a soul-inflected hip-hop ensemble from Houston. Advance tickets: $20. **Apr. 21: Chris Bathgate.** Talented local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic folk-rock story songs in a variety of moods. He has an acclaimed new CD, *Salt Year.* Opening acts are **Matt Jones & the Reconstruction,** a local pop-folk band led by Jones, a singer-songwriter with a new CD, *The Black Path,* that *Metro Times* reviewer Doug Coombe calls "a beautifully produced and arranged folk-chamber pop," and **Chris Kasper,** a Philadelphia alt-folk singer-songwriter. **Apr. 25:** TBA. **Apr. 26: Plug.** Gay-friendly dance party with a DJ. **Apr. 27: Tortoise.** Influential Chicago band that plays experimental, jazz-flavored ambient instrumentals. Opening act is **Miracle Condition,** A Chicago psychedelic noise-rock band. Advance tickets: $18. **Apr. 28: We Were Promised Jetpacks.** Scottish quartet whose oversized guitar-propelled pop-rock has provoked comparisons to U2 and Big Country. Opening acts are **Breton,** a London (UK) math-rock electronica band, and **Fort Lean,** a highly regarded Brooklyn (NY) indie rock band. Advance tickets: $15.

Blue Tractor
207 E. Washington **222–4095**

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 9:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Open Mike.** All acoustic musicians and vocalists invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Zachariah Griffin.

The Circus
210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional other nights 10 p.m.–2 a.m. DJ on Thurs. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except for age 21 & older), dancing. Also, live music or karaoke on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club** (cover with dancing in these clubs). Age 21 & older admitted on Wed. & Thurs., age 18 & older on Fri. & Sat. **Apr. 4: Dragon Wagon.** Highly regarded local experimental acoustic roots-music sextet that calls its music "bluegrass folk-rock with a touch of Irish whiskey." **Apr. 7: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **Apr. 11 & 18: Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys.** *See review, p. 52.* Lansing swing-flavored bluegrass band led by singer-guitarist Lindsay Lou Rilko. **Apr. 21: Killer Flamingos.** See above. **Apr. 25: Whistle Pigs.** Bluegrass-flavored alt-country Americana trio from Carbondale (IL) whose instrumentation features banjo, accordion, and upright bass. **Apr. 28: Killer Flamingos.** See above.

Conor O'Neill's
318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Sun., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Apr. 5: Doro.** Pop and rock covers by this U-M student band. **Apr. 7: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **Apr. 12: Lucas Paul Band.** See Quarter Bistro. **Apr. 14: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Apr. 19: Blues Owls.** Blues band led by singer-blues harpist Bob Bedard, a Dexter psychologist. **Apr. 21: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Apr. 26: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Apr. 28: K.T.'s Alibi.** Redford pop-rock quartet led by vocalist Katie Jimmerson.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main **665–9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Apr. 6: Billy Brandt.** Veteran Detroit country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter. **Apr. 7: Sue Fink.** Chicago-based pop-folk singer-songwriter whose songs feature an engaging blend of wit and vulnerability. **Apr. 13: Nicholas James Thomasma.** Country-folk Americana singer-songwriter from Grand Rapids. **Apr. 14: Tom Kastle.** Veteran singer-songwriter from Madison whose songs are known for their strong sense of story, often rooted in the world of the Great Lakes. **Apr. 20: Dale Osborn.** Leo Kottke-style singer-guitarist from Chelsea who performs tasty covers and originals. **Apr. 21: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Apr. 27: Bill Connors and Billy King.** Double bill. Connors is a folk-style singer-songwriter best known as the leader of the former local Irish music trio Mulligan Stew and the founder of the Great Lakes Songwriting Contest. King is a popular local country-flavored pop-folk singer-songwriter and guitarist. **Apr. 28: Chris Degnore.** Blues-flavored pop-rock singer-songwriter from Detroit.

Creekside Grill and Bar
5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Apr. 29: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalists Jim Tarravantes and Patty O'Connor. 6:30–9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater
26 N. Washington
Ypsilanti **657–2337**

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music, 9–11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Apr. 19: Calvin Johnson & the Hive Dwellers.** Indie pop-punk by a band led by K Records founder Johnson, also the cofounder of the influential Olympia (WA) lo-fi indie band Beat Happening. Opening acts are 2 local indie rock quartets led by singer-songwriter Fred Thomas, **Swimsuit** and **City Center. Apr. 29: "Totally Awesome Fest 8."** The last of 3 nights at various Ypsilanti venues featuring live music, films, theater, fashion shows, and pancakes. The musical lineup includes the Detroit Bowiesque glam-rock singer-songwriter **Duane The Teenage Weirdo,** the local neo-soul R&B trio **Our Brother The Native,** the local keyboard-driven minimalist pop trio **Lightning Love,** the local hip-hop collective **Tree City,** local hip-hop MC **Nickie P.,** the Fort Wayne electro-acoustic minimalist rock ensemble **Sky Thing,** the experimental spoken word and prepared sound duo **Poetry Problem Express,** the Ypsilanti hardcore band **Minus 9,** the local rock band **Van Houten,** the acoustic neopsychedelic folk-rock guitar-and-flute duo **Wiccans,** the Ypsilanti rock 'n' roll quartet **Zombie Jesus and the Chocolate Sunshine Band,** local electro-pop singer-songwriter **Charlie Slick,** the Ypsilanti post-punk avant-noise band **Witch Putty,** the local punk band **Suicide by Cop,** and **Animal Magic.** FREE. Noon–2 a.m.

Elks Neighborhood Kitchen
220 Sunset **761–7172**

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, Thurs.–Sat. 6–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover (unless otherwise noted). Members and guests welcome. **Every Fri.: Tim Haldeman Trio.** Blues- and bebop-based jazz in a variety of styles and forms by this local ensemble led by saxophonist Haldeman. With bassist Dave Sharp and percussionist Dan Piccolo. **Apr. 5:** Russ Tessier, Dan Bennett, & Friends. Jazz jam session hosted by bassist Tessier and saxophonist Bennett. **Apr. 7: Johnny the Bluesman.** Local blues band. **Apr. 12: Bob Sweet Trio.** Local jazz ensemble led by drummer Sweet and featuring pianist Tad Weed and bassist Kurt Krahnke. **Apr. 14: Dave Sharp Ensemble.** Straight-ahead jazz by this ensemble led by veteran local bassist Sharp. **Apr. 19: Russ Tessier, Dan Bennett, & Friends.** See above. **Apr. 21: Tee Ball All-Stars.** Funk, soul, and jazz by this quartet of musical young lions. With keytarist Patrick Whitehead, guitarist Jacoby Simmons, bassist Mike Kerby,

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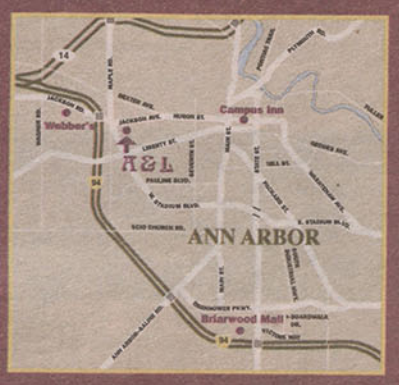

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and drummer Galen Mark-Griffin. **Apr. 26: Johnny the Bluesman,** See above. **Apr. 28: FUBAR.** See Live.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. 769–9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **Apr. 7: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Popular local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style blends elements of Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Apr. 14: George Bedard & the Kingpins.** See Live. **Apr. 21: Bluescasters.** Veteran local blues and blues-rock quartet. **Apr. 28: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and jazz Sun., 7–11 p.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **Apr. 3–5: Dave Hamilton.** Pop covers by this versatile solo guitarist. **Apr. 6 & 7: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Apr. 10: Rick Canzano.** Northville pop-rock multi-instrumentalist. **Apr. 11 & 12: Dal Bouey.** Detroit R&B and neo-soul show band led by vocalist Bouey. **Apr. 13: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Apr. 14: Brena.** Grand Rapids pop-rock quintet. **Apr. 17–19: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **Apr. 20 & 21: Starfarm.** 80s covers by this East Lansing retro rock and pop quintet. **Apr. 24–26: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Apr. 27 & 28: The Front Men.** New Detroit vintage-rock band.

Live
102 S. First St. 623–1443

This lounge, remodeled and under new management, features live music Wed., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. and Fri. happy hour 6:30–9 p.m. and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Apr. 4: Adam Plomaritas.** Local Americana rock band led by this singer-songwriter. **Apr. 6: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6–9:30 p.m. **Apr. 11: Brendan Andes Trio.** Local jazz-funk trio led by Macpodz bassist Andes. **Apr. 13: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6–9:30 p.m. **Apr. 18: Wayward Roots.** Local acoustic roots music string quintet. With mandolinist David Mosher, fiddler Evan Childress, dobro player Tony Pace, guitarist Todd Lang, and bassist Alan Reuben. **Apr. 20: George Bedard & the Kingpins.** Superfine honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. Bedard's tasty new all-instrumental CD, *Pickin' Apart the Past,* includes "Minor Swing '65," his surf-music adaptation of a Django Reinhardt tune. 6–9:30 p.m. **Apr. 25: "Cover of *Current* Concert."** Performance by the top 5 finishers among the 12 local bands nominated to be chosen by *Current* magazine readers to be featured on its July cover. **Apr. 27: Drivin' Sideways.** See above. 6–9:30 p.m.

Melange Subterranean Bistro
314 S. Main 222–0202

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist.

The Necto
516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town
122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Apr. 1: Matt Jones.** See Blind Pig. **Apr. 8:** No music. **Apr. 15: Dylan Charles.** Versatile Americana singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and storyteller from Arizona who has released a debut CD, *Time for Breakfast.* **Apr. 22: Hoodang.** Wry, pungent alt-country by this local trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter. **Apr. 29: Dave Boutette.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg.

Oz's Music Environment
1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing. **Apr. 3: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Apr. 24: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

Passport
3776 S. State **222–1111**

This south-side restaurant features live music Thurs. 6–10 p.m. Also, dance DJs Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat. 7 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Comedy Open Mike.** All stand-up comics invited. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. **Apr. 5, 12, & 19:** TBA. **Apr. 26: Paul Keller Quartet.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo.

The Quarter Bistro
300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs. 6:30–9 p.m., Sat. 7:30–10 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Apr. 5: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Apr. 7: Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Apr. 12: Marsha Gayle.** Veteran Detroit jazz vocalist who specializes in standards associated with Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Carmen McRae, and Billie Holiday. **Apr. 14: Meg & Tony.** Acoustic rock covers by the Royal Oak duo of vocalist Meghan Kelly and guitarist Tony Anthony. **Apr. 19: Lucas Paul Band.** See above. **Apr. 21: Jeff Tucker.** Acoustic singer-songwriter from Toledo who accompanies himself on guitar and harmonica and whose music blends rock, pop, and country with elements of Americana and jazz. **Apr. 26: Gia Warner.** Acoustic pop-folk singer-songwriter from Northville. **Apr. 28: Marsha Gayle.** See above.

Ravens Club
207 S. Main **214–0400**

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Ron Brooks Trio.** Mainstream bebop-rooted jazz by this trio led by veteran local bassist Brooks. With pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson. **Apr. 6: Ingrid Racine & Friends.** NOMO trumpeter Racine leads her band in explorations of straight-ahead, funky, and electrified modern jazz. 5–7 p.m.

Silvio's Organic Pizza
715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Reggae DJ Thurs. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Apr. 6: The Dellwoods.** Local jazz quintet. With tenor saxophonist Doug Wochna, keyboardist Barb Debrodt, guitarist Jeff Spaulding, bassist Tim Berla, and drummer Bob Bedard. **Apr. 9: "Chamber Jam."** The local classical chamber music ensemble **Classical Revolution** presents a jam session featuring music by Beethoven, Turina, and others. 7:30–11 p.m. **Apr. 13: The Dorkestra.** Local folk-rock swing quintet whose music blends jazz, African, Middle Eastern, funk, and pop influences. **Apr. 20: The Lady K Players.** Local jazz trio whose repertoire includes jazz standards, modified pop tunes, and originals. With guitarist Katharine Battistoni, bassist Ben Rolston, and drummer Jeremy Edwards. **Apr. 27: Isosceles.** Versatile local acoustic trio that plays a mix of jazz, swing, country, pop, and folk. With vocalist Shekinah Errington, bassist Tim Berla, and guitarist Jim Cooney.

Tap Room
201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music most Wed. 7–11 p.m., Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, & Sat. and occasional Fri. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Apr. 7:** TBA. **Apr. 14: Ann Arbor Music Center Kids Showcase.** Young musicians perform pop and rock covers. 6–8 p.m. **Apr. 14:** TBA. **Apr. 21:** TBA. **Apr. 28:** TBA.

Vinology
110 S. Main **222–9841**

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz, Sun. 6–8 p.m. and occasional Thurs. 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Every Sun** (except Apr. 8)**: Marsha Mumm.** Blues, jazz, and pop standards, along with some originals, by this local singer-songwriter, guitarist, and pianist. **Apr. 19: Paul Keller Quartet.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by bassist Keller.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.
2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west side brewpub features occasional live music, 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Apr. 13: Mike Shimmin Blues Trio.** Kalamazoo blues band led by Shimmin, the drummer in Seth Bernard & May Erelwine's band, the Red Sea Pedestrians, Madcat & Kane, and other bands. **Apr. 14: Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys.** See Circus.

Woodruff's
36 E. Cross
Ypsilanti **483–2800**

This club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Sun. & Thurs. 8–11 p.m., Tues. 7–10 p.m., and Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, karaoke on Thurs. 11 p.m.–1 a.m. and DJ on Sun. & Tues. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Sun.: Dan Bennett Quartet.** Experimental jazz ensemble led by NOMO saxophonist Bennett. 8–11 p.m. **Every Sun.: Todd Osborne.** This Detroit-area electronic musician spins techno, electronica, funk, and soul records. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Every Tues.: "Acoustic Open Mike."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter **Dave Boutette.** 8–11 p.m. **Every Fri.: Legendary Wings.** Local postbop jazz quartet with saxophonist Dan Bennett, electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins. 6:30–9 p.m. **Apr. 1: Ghostlady.** Local self-styled "quirk pop" band that plays guitar, drums, bells, loop pedal, and Farfisa organ. Opening acts are **Andy Wagner,** a Chicago folk-rock singer-songwriter, and **Missiledyne,** a local postpunk alt-country trio whose influences range from the Clash and the Gun Club to the Beat Farmers and the Drive-By Truckers. 5–8 p.m. **Apr. 4: Deep Fried Pickle Project.** Bluegrass-based Americana band from Kalamazoo. Opening acts are **Charlie King,** the mandolinist and dobro player of the recently disbanded neohippie dance band Asylum Street Spankers, and **Wayward Roots,** a local acoustic roots music string quintet. With mandolinist David Mosher, fiddler Evan Childress, dobro player Tony Pace, guitarist Todd Lang, and bassist Alan Reuben. **Apr. 5: Some Velvet Evening.** Carrie Shepard and Ann Arbor native John Holkeboer, the singer-songwriter duo behind the Ferndale psychedelic honky-tonk band John Holk & the Sequins, perform original songs inspired by such great close-harmony brother duos as the Louvins, Delmores, and Stanleys. Opening acts are **The Blueflowers,** a Detroit Americana, alt-country, indie-rock band, and **The Flutter and Wow,** a Detroit acoustic psychedelic Americana band with an alt-country edge fronted by singer-songwriters Tasha and Brian Lord. 8–11 p.m. **Apr. 6: Third Coast Kings.** Local horn-driven retro funk octet that tonight celebrates the release of its eponymous debut CD on the Italian funk label Record Kicks. Opening acts are **The Infatuations,** a Detroit pop-funk dance octet, and **The Wrong Numbers,** a Detroit rock 'n' soul quintet. **Apr. 7:** TBA. **Apr. 11:** TBA. **Apr. 12:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **Apr. 13: Child Bite.** Ferndale postpunk art-rock band. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti postpunk rock 'n' roll quintet **Lizerrd,** the Detroit rock 'n' soul jam band **Reverend,** and the Detroit hardcore-thrash quartet **SNAFU. Apr. 14: Frontier Ruckus.** Popular experimental bluegrass-based folk-rock ensemble from Lake Orion. "Frontman Matthew Milia's vocals convey a dreamy, twangy quality, like someone who's wandering aimlessly through the woods at night. He recalls Michael Stipe in his vivid wordplay and oblique imagery," says the *Cleveland Scene.* Opening acts are **Matt Jones & the Reconstruction,** a local pop-folk band led by Jones, a singer-songwriter with a new CD, *The Black Path,* that *Metro Times* reviewer Doug Coombe calls "beautifully produced and arranged folk-chamber pop," and **Steven Leaf,** a Chicago-based indie pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Apr. 18: Appleseed Collective.** Popular young local acoustic quartet whose music is an enchanting blend of lyric-based folk-rock with Dixieland and gypsy jazz rhythms and harmonies. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD. Opening acts are **Honey Locust,** a Nashville-based self-styled "southern orchestral folk" quintet, and **Steve Smalls,** a Pontiac singer-songwriter. **Apr. 19: Stereo Boyz.** Detroit underground hip-hop duo Opening act is **Vic Freeze,** an Ohio hip-hop MC. 8–11 p.m. **Apr. 20: Drunken Barn Dance.** Local experimental alt-country and folk-rock quintet led by singer-songwriter Scott Sellwood. The band recently released the CD *Grey Buried.* Opening acts are the Detroit pop-rock band **Johnny Headband,** the Grand Rapids pop-rock sextet **Lucky Shoreline,** and the NYC guitar-and-marimba pop-folk duo **The New Benjamin Britton. Apr. 21: "Elbow Deep."** Drag show and gay and lesbian dance night hosted by Maxi and Jennifer of the House of Chanel, with a DJ TBA. **Apr. 25:** TBA. **Apr. 26: Charlie Slick.** Local Gary Numan-inspired electro-pop singer-songwriter. Opening act is **Electric Fire Babies,** a Detroit experimental New Wave band. 8–11 p.m. **Apr. 27: The Beggars.** Local retro garage rock 'n' roll band. Opening acts are the 1980s metal tribute band **Red, White, & Booze,** the Whitmore Lake metal-rock jam band **One Divide,** and the local prog-rock band **Slim Pickenz & the Big Appetite. Apr. 28:** TBA.

Zal Gaz Grotto
2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Mon. 7:30–10:15 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. The April schedule features the **Belleville High School Jazz Band** (Apr. 2), **WSU Jazz Band** (Apr. 9), **Tappan Middle School Jazz Band** (Apr. 16), **Pioneer High School Jazz Band** (Apr. 23), and **Grosse Ile High School Jazz Band** (Apr. 30). **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **Apr. 20: Blueshouse/313.** Local blues trio, led by veteran English singer-guitarist Mike Brooks, whose repertoire combines blues standards with Brooks originals like "She's Got an Alibi," "Retribution Blues," and "Stone Cold Steamin' Mental." With bassist Brother Bille Lewis, drummer Geno Parker, and saxophonist Eric Korte. 7:30–10:30 p.m. **Apr. 28: "Boogie Woogie Red Tribute & Benefit."** An all-star boogie-woogie blues show to raise money for a headstone for the unmarked grave of the late Michigan blues piano icon, a weekly fixture in the original Blind Pig basement music room who died at age 66 in 1992. Performers include the internationally renowned local boogie wooogie and blues pianist **Mark "Mr. B" Braun,** local boogie woogie pianist **Jerry "The Wolverine" Perrine,** local jazz pianist **Duncan McMillan,** and Cincinnati blues pianist **Ricky Nye.** Also, local guitar wiz **George Bedard** joins Mr. B to revive some of their original collaborations in the 70s and 80s, and blues drummer **RJ Spangler** fronts 2 bands, **The Rootsologists** Chicago blues band and **Planet D Nonet** swing band. Mr. B also hosts a closing jam session. Also, reminiscences by Boogie Woogie Red's former manager, Fred Reif. Emcees are WRCJ-FM DJ John Penney, WCBN DJ Jerry Mack, and WEMU DJ Michael G. Nastos. $10–$20. 2–6 p.m.

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
314 East Liberty AnnArbor

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Mike Green
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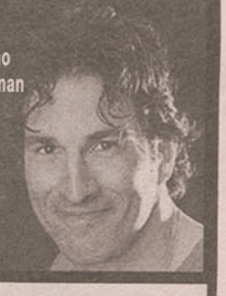
MTV's "Wonder Showzen"
the movies "Zoolander"
"Date Movie"
and more

Dale Jones
April 13 & 14
"Last Comic Standing"
"The Bob & Tom Show"
TBS's "The Very Funny Show"
FOX-TV's "30 seconds to Fame"

Gary Gulman
April 19 20 21
"Last Comic Standing"
"The Tonight Show" w/ Leno
"The Late Show" w/ Letterman
"Jimmy Kimmel Live"
"The Conan Show"
HBO's "Just For Laughs
" National Lampoon Live"
CBS - SHOWTIME - FOX-TV
and tons more!!



Mark Sweeney
April 26 27 28
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April Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** hinch@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

arbormail:

Get your alerts by email—send a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at arborweb.com/arbormail_help.html.

★ *Denotes a free event.*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 SUNDAY

★**"What is Jewish Detroit? Jewish Communal Leadership Program: Communal Conversation 2012": U-M School of Social Work.** A day of interactive learning and dialogue focused on the past, present, and future of the Jewish community's relationship to the City of Detroit. Kosher breakfast & lunch served. *9:30 a.m.–4 p.m., SSWB Educational Conference Center, 1080 South University. Free, but preregistration required at bit.ly/what-is-jewish-detroit.*

★**Bicycle Riding Club: Jewish Community Center.** All invited to join a leisurely 90-minute round-trip ride to various places of interest around town, including a stop at Zingerman's Bakehouse. *9:45 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Sunday Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sun. Apr. 1:* **"Back Roads Ride,"** a ride at various paces, 20–33 miles (662–0742, 996–8079), along the back roads of Washtenaw County, and **"Kathleen's Democratic Road Ride,"** a ride whose pace and distance is determined by the assembled riders. *Apr. 8:* **"Easter Democratic Ride."** The assembled riders pick where to go to find the best Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies. *Apr. 15:* **"Early Filers Ride,"** fast/moderate-paced 42-mile (327–9596) and slow-paced 32-mile (761–1147) rides north of town and back to Moonwinks Café in Dixboro. *Apr. 22:* **"Azalia Ashley Memorial Metric Century,"** a fast/moderate-paced 67-mile ride (645–5840) through the rapidly disappearing farm country south and east of Ann Arbor to Azalia, and **"Milan Breakfast Ride,"** a slow-paced 35-mile ride (424–9039) to Milan for breakfast. *Apr. 29:* **"Lower Huron Metro Ride,"** a fast/moderate-paced 65-mile ride (545–0541) to Lower Huron Metropark, with a stop in Belleville for lunch on the way back. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 996–4985.*

★**"Spring Knap-In": Michigan Flintknappers.** Michigan artisans demonstrate the ancient art of chipping razor-sharp tools from stone. Also, members of the Great Lakes Primitives demonstrate various stone-age technologies. Also, a chance to use an

MYRA KLARMAN

The Pioneer High School Theatre Guild performs *West Side Story* April 28 and 29 and May 4–6.

FILMS

73 Film Screenings — *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

67 Exhibit Openings — *Katie Whitney*
Machines of Loving Grace — *Stephanie Douglass*

EVENTS REVIEWS

59 Dead Man's Shoes — *Sally Mitani*
A buddy Western, with low-tech lovability

65 Metropolitan Opera Live Broadcasts — *Sandor Slomovits*
Like football on TV

70 Charles Lloyd — *Piotr Michalowski*
Wedded to the tenor sax

75 Jack Driscoll — *Keith Taylor*
Our best-kept secret

83 Romanticism meets Classicism — *James Leonard*
Violinist Joshua Bell with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

85 Jamie and Jordan — *Frances Kai-Hwa Wang*
Friendship, health, and fun

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

52 Nightspots — *John Hinchey*
Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys — *James M. Manheim*

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APRIL 2012 event highlights
Ann Arbor District Library

Shipwrecked!

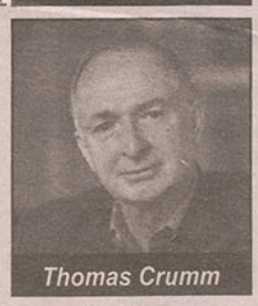
Peter Madcat Ruth

April 12

April 16

Anne Willan

Photo © Siri Bertring


Thomas Crumm

April 27

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Sunday 2:00 - 3:00 pm — **1** — **Bestselling Fantasy Author Brandon Mull** discusses his new book ***Beyonders: Seeds of Rebellion*** • **PITTSFIELD BRANCH**

Thursday 7:00 - 8:00 pm — **5** — **Wild Swan Navigates Shipwreck Alley In Their Newest Original Play** • The playwright, director, and actors discuss Wild Swan Theater's newest play, ***Shipwrecked!***

Monday 7:00 - 8:00 pm — **9** — **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK EVENT** • **Wild Swan Theater Presents *Shipwrecked!*** • Set in 1893, a Detroit family gets caught in a fierce November storm in Shipwreck Alley • **GRADE 3 - ADULT**

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm — **10** — **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK CONCERT** • **Peter Madcat Ruth** Madcat and his harmonica captivate audiences everywhere

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **11** — **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK EVENT** • **Health Care Reform: Its Contents and Challenges** • Health policy consultant **Josh Fangmeier** discusses the state of the U.S. health care system

Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **12** — **SUSTAINABLE ANN ARBOR FORUMS | 2012** • **Community** A panel of local stakeholders discusses community issues in this final forum cosponsored by the **City of Ann Arbor**

Friday 7:00 - 8:00 pm — **13** — **NATIONAL POETRY MONTH PERFORMANCE** • **Jeff Kass** and National Poetry Slam champion **Roger Bonair-Agard** • **GRADE 9 - ADULT**

Sunday 3:00 - 5:00 pm — **15** — **Imagining the Future of Urban Agriculture in Detroit** with City Planner **Kathryn Lynch Underwood** of the Detroit City Planning Commission • **MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH**

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **16** — **TITANIC CENTENNIAL EVENT** • **Meet a Shipwreck Survivor Pierette Domenica Simpson** shares her personal account of surviving the 1956 sinking of the SS *Andrea Doria* and discusses her new young adult novel based on the event • **GRADE 6 - ADULT**

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **17** — **"It Was Twenty Years Ago Today...I'd Love To Turn You On" – Meaning, Memory and Marijuana In Sgt. Pepper** • Musicologist **Jim Leonard** discusses "the greatest album" of all time

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **18** — **How to Break Out of the Pack: Marketing Your Self-Published Book** • Panelists discuss creative marketing and publicizing

Sunday 3:00 - 5:00 pm — **22** — **Anne Willan**, founder of the French cooking school **La Varenne**, discusses **The History of Early Cookbooks** and her new book, ***The Cookbook Library***

Monday 7:00 - 8:00 pm — **23** — **CONCERT** • **An Evening with John Batdorf** • John's acoustic guitar and smooth vocals have delighted fans since the '70s

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **25** — **More Than Senior Moments: Understanding Early Signs of Memory Changes** • UM memory and aging experts discuss recent research on Mild Cognitive Impairment and Alzheimer's

Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **26** — Auto industry expert **Thomas Crumm** discusses his book, ***What Is Good for General Motors?***, and restoration of the auto industry

Friday 8:30 - 10:00 pm — **27** — **AADL/University Lowbrow Astronomers Public Stargazing and Telescope Lending Program Launch for All Ages** View the night sky and learn about AADL's new telescope lending program • **LESLIE SCIENCE CENTER, 1831 TRAVER ROAD**

Saturday 2:00 - 3:30 pm — **28** — **Preserving Your Digital Photos** with archivist **Lance Stuchell** Digital preservation lessons learned in the archive and library professions can be used at home to help secure family photos

For more information: 327.4200 or aadl.org

aadl.org

atlatl, the prehistoric spear thrower, and a woods-walk archery shoot. Pancake breakfast, hot dogs, & hamburgers available. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Rd. (south off Waterloo Rd., west of Chelsea). Free. (810) 231–2314.*

★**"The Holocaust and Beyond": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** Talk by Holocaust survivor Harry Cybulski. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994–4473.*

★**"Tibetan Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** *Every Sun.* Talk by **Gelek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

★**Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. *Apr. 1:* All invited for **conversation.** *Apr. 8:* All invited to bring a dish to pass for an **Easter pot-luck.** *Apr. 15:* Screening of the Journey Films DVD ***The Power of Forgiveness.*** *Apr. 22 & 29:* All invited to join a discussion of **"Values Learned in Our Formative Years That Have Guided Our Adult Lives."** *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

The Sunday Artisan Market. *Every Sun.* Juried market that features local handmade arts and crafts. *Apr. 1:* **"Spring for Spring."** Butterfly craft and other kids activities. *Apr. 22:* **"Earth Day in Action"** features artists whose work incorporates objects. Also, kids activities and a rag rug demo. *11 a.m.–4 p.m., Farmers' Market, Kerrytown. Free admission. 913–9622.*

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. hac_ultimate@ameritech.net, 846–9418.*

Easter Egg Hunt: Hudson Mills Metropark. For kids age 12 & under. Also, a petting farm, face painting, and a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny. *Noon–2 p.m., park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $4 in advance, $6 at the gate. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

"Physicspalooza": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Mar. 31 & Apr. 1.* Hands-on physics activities that explore motion, gravity, light, and magnetic power. *Noon–4 p.m. (10 a.m.–4 p.m. on Mar. 31), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $10 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sun. except Apr. 8.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it circa 1900. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Free; donations accepted. 994–4898.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun. & Tues.–Fri.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Fri.). *1 p.m. (Sun.) & 6 p.m. (Tues.–Fri.) Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (Tues., free; Fri., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *1–6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417–5547.*

★**Ann Arbor Companion Bird Club.** All invited to join club members to discuss topics related to **parrots.** Bring your bird. *1 p.m., Animal Kingdom, 4990 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 359–3206.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. *1–3 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★**"Art as Experience": UMMA.** *Every Sun.* Docent-led tour, with audience participation, of highlights of UMMA collections. *1 p.m. UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"Comic Artists Forum": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local cartoonist **Jono Balliett** shows how to turn a single sheet of paper into an 8-page multi-panel mini-comic book that doesn't need any staples or binding. Participants also work on their own comics; materials provided. For adults and teens in grade

SEAN CARTER

SEAN CARTER

Dead Man's Shoes

A buddy Western, with low-tech lovability

Fans of the Western might have noticed that it's not so easy to mount one on a live stage, where the big sky will always look fake and cheesy. Fights and stunts, even if they look OK, are dangerous, and how can you do a Western without wide-angle shots of horses and stagecoaches? We all know the Western has a look and feel that was made for film.

Well, shut my mouth, were we wrong! *Dead Man's Shoes* (by local playwright Joe Zettelmaier) is not only a fine Western, it's found a way to make its low-tech staginess into a virtue. It's presented as a kind of medicine show, with hand-cranked scenery, and each scene foretold in song, the way Nat King Cole and Stubby Kaye sang out the story of *Cat Ballou*. The wide-open spaces aren't needed, because most of the story is set in jails and broken-down saloons. Actors make their own sound effects—nary a door opens unless someone backstage is making a creaking noise. *Dead Man's Shoes* isn't exactly a spoof on a Western but more like a loving tribute writ joyously large.

Like many a good cowboy yarn, it's a tale of two buddies who are opposites in every way. These two are Injun Bill Picote (Drew Parker), a man of few words, in single-minded pursuit of the man who killed his best friend; and his sidekick Froggy (Aral Gribble)—words seems to dribble from him like water from a leaky canteen, and he can't see farther ahead than his next meal. The plot twists are best kept fresh, and in any case there are too many to describe. Too many to watch? Possibly, but what scenes could be cut? The hilarious bit where Froggy finds himself in a bordello—oops, don't want to give too much of that away—could probably be dispensed with, but it's one of the funniest scenes in the show and provides grist for many subsequent jokes.

Instead of spoiling the plot, I'll just give another note on the humor-challenged, single-minded Injun Bill. When someone tells him to stop and smell the flowers once in awhile, it turns out that he has literally never smelled a flower. (In the last scene he gingerly picks up a lily and sniffs like it's about to bite him.)

I saw *Dead Man's Shoes* in its maiden voyage at the charming Williamston Theatre (with apologies to the community, Williamston itself seems a little ghost townesque, which helped set the mood). The production moved intact to the Performance Network in March for a run that continues every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night, plus Sunday afternoons, through April 8.

—*Sally Mitani*

6 & up. *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun. and Apr. 2–6.* Four different audio-visual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. Sat. & Apr. 2–6, 1:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun. & Apr. 2–6, & 3:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***Cosmic Colors*** (12:30 p.m. Sat.) is a journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum that explores the reasons for color, the nature of X-rays, and more. ***Zula Patrol*** (12:30 p.m. on Apr. 2–6) is an animated exploration of weather, both terrestrial and interplanetary. ***Natural Selection: Darwin's Mystery of Mysteries*** (2:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.) explores the centerpiece of Darwin's theory of evolution. *1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

Tour: Zingerman's Creamery. *Every Sun.* Zingerman's cheesemaker Josh Minor leads a tour of the facility and shows how Zingerman's cheeses and gelato are made. *2 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $5 (includes a $5 coupon for the Creamery cheese shop). 929–0500.*

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

"Buying and Storing Groceries in Bulk": Preserving Traditions/Pittsfield Union Grange. A chance to learn where to buy bulk grocery items like flour, beans, rice, and pasta and how long you can store them. Bring your checkbook if you'd like to participate in a bulk order at the end of the meeting. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $5–$10 sliding scale (Grange members, free). Preregistration requested. 997–8844.*

★**"Kerry Tales: Mother Goose Says, 'April Fool!'": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★**Festifools Crafts: Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to make a robo-sea creature for the FestiFools parade later this afternoon (see listing below). *2–4 p.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Haroon Mirza": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of works by this award-winning British artist whose work incorporates moving parts, electronics, video, and sound. *2 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**20–Something Book Club: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to discuss ***The Crying of Lot 49,*** Thomas Pynchon's playful novella exploring the nexus between paranoia and the disconnections of modern society. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1816.*

★**"Beyonders: Seeds of Rebellion": Ann Arbor District Library.** Bestselling fiction writer **Brandon Mull,** author of the popular Fablehaven children's literature fantasy series, discusses his new cliffhanger aimed at readers in grades 3–7. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

Old-Time Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Martin Whitaker calls traditional square dances to live old-time music by the Peacemeal String Band. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. *2–5 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $8 (AACTMAD, $7; students, $5; kids age 14 & under with a parent, free). 994–6494.*

"Only on Sunday II": The Greek Chamber Music Project (Kerrytown Concert House). This ensemble of Greek and American musicians performs chamber works by Greek composers rarely heard outside of Greece. Program: Dimitris Dragatakis' Sonata No. 1 for Violin & Piano, Dinos Constantinides' *Homage: A Folk Concerto for Flute and Piano,* Michael Malis' *Ousak,* and more. With soprano Mariangela Chatzistamatiou, flutist Ellie Falaris Ganelin, violinist Maria Bessmeltseva, saxophonist Alekos Syropoulos, and pianists Pantelis Polychronidis and Michael Malis. Preceded at 1 p.m. by **"It Sounds Greek to Me, but Why?,"** a free talk by Kalamazoo College ethnomusicology postdoctoral fellow Yona Stamatis. *2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"H.M.S. Pinafore": U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society. *Mar. 29–Apr. 1.* David Andrews and Greg Hassold direct U-M students in one of Gilbert and Sullivan's best-known comic operettas, also known as "The Lass Who Loved a Sailor." Aboard the Pinafore, the captain's daughter moons for a poor but honest sailor. Her father won't abide a marriage with a common deckhand, but through a series of absurd plot twists that tweak class barriers, the two lovers predictably find bliss. The score contains many of Sullivan's most memorable works, among them "We Sail the Ocean Blue" and "I'm Called Little Buttercup." *2 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $20 (seniors age 65 & over, $18; students with ID, $10) in advance at brownpapertickets.com/event/198469 & by phone. (800) 838–3006.*

"Dead Man's Shoes": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Mar. 8–Apr. 8. (See review, p. 59.)* David Wolber directs the world premiere production of local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's Edgerton Foundation Award–winning black comedy, set in the antebellum Old West, about a pair of ill-matched prison escapees—Injun Bill Picote and his low-down sidekick—who undertake a mission of vengeance. In a review of this joint production, which opened at the Williamston Theater in February, *Lansing State Journal* critic Bridgette Redman calls it "a play that invites laughter and thoughtfulness through an intensely told tale." Cast: Drew Parker, Aral Basil Gribble II, Paul Hopper, Maggie Meyer. *2 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun. (except Easter), Mar. 29–June 2.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Don Zolidis's award-winning drama about a white buffalo born on a small farm in southern Wisconsin. The owner thinks nothing of it until she learns that the birth is the fulfillment of an ancient Sioux prophecy of peace on earth, and her little farm is quickly overwhelmed with religious pilgrims, bringing her into contact with a culture and faith wholly unfamiliar to her. Cast: David Daoust, Matthew David, Rainbow Dickerson, Stacie Hadgikosti, Alex Leydenfrost, Nate Mitchell, Michelle Mountain, Michael Brian Ogden, Meghan Thompson. *2 p.m., Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Mar. 29–Apr. 5: $20 (Wed. & Thurs.), $25 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $40 (Sat. eve.). After Apr. 5: Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $35 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $40 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

"Cloud Nine": U-M Theatre Department. *Mar. 29–31 and Apr. 1 & 5–8.* Freelance director Tim Ocel directs U-M theatre students in Caryl Churchill's racy, merrily merciless 1979 spoof of the moral pretensions of imperial Britain. Set in colonial Africa in 1880, the first act is a nonstop flurry of sexual liaisons involving a British functionary, his wife, his son and daughter, an explorer, a woman dressed in a riding habit, and an all-knowing black servant. The second act is set in 1980s London (though the characters have aged a mere 25 years) and blends farce and pathos in a surprising denouement. *2 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $26 (students, $10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**Pokemon League: Get Your Game On.** *Every Sun.* All invited to play this popular card game and trade cards with other players. *3 p.m., Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. Free. 786–3746.*

★**Campus Band & University Band: U-M School of Music.** John Pasquale conducts these ensembles of non-music majors in a jubilant program of sacred and secular folk songs and dances that span from the Middle Ages to today, including works by Frescobaldi, Shostakovich, Offenbach, Grainger, U-M music professor Scott Boerma, and others. *3 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

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"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Every Thurs.–Sun, Mar. 29–Apr. 22.* This Dexter-based professional company presents John Michael Telebak's perennially popular 1971 musical based on the Gospel of Matthew. Telebak's Jesus is a clown-like character who inspires his followers, a band of downtrodden homeless characters, through entertaining parables that show them how God works in everyday life. Stars Rusty Mewha and Brian Thibault, with Brian E. Buckner, Keith Kalinowski, Charles Lindsay, Sonja Marquis, Angela Kay Miller, Fatima Poggi, Amy Smidebush, and Tara Tomcsik. *3 p.m., Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. $18 on Thurs., $32 (members & seniors, $29; groups of 10 or more, $26) on Fri. & Sat. eve. & $28 (members & seniors, $25; groups of 10 or more, $22) for matinees. Tickets available at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. *Every Sun.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents all-ages puppet shows by local writers featuring a variety of puppets created by local artists, including marionettes and shadow puppets. The stories often contain humorously intended social commentary that, like contemporary children's cartoons, some may consider inappropriate. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

★**"Val Cushing: A Life in Clay": Yourist Studio Gallery.** Screening of this video about well-known New York ceramic artist Cushing. *4 p.m., Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662–4914.*

★**6th Annual FestiFools Parade: U-M Street Art Theater Project.** A parade down Main Street featuring some 50 giant handmade street puppets—including such creatures as dinosaurs and dancing eggplants—made by the U-M Street Art Theater Project, accompanied by the U-M percussion ensemble **Groove.** If you'd like to join the parade, bring a costume, silly hat, musical instrument, or puppet. Also, a **"live video game"** in which participants complete challenges such as obstacle courses. Followed by an Italian-themed **"FestiFeast"** (aut\Bar, Braun Ct.). *4 p.m., Main between William and Washington. Free. festifools.org, 763–7550.*

★**Wind Ensemble: Concordia University.** Matthew Wolf directs this music student ensemble in works by a wide variety of classical and contemporary composers. *4 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

Heidelberg Charity Poker Room. *Daily.* Texas Hold 'Em and blackjack for players of all levels. Also, Hold 'Em tournaments at 7 p.m. Wed., Fri., & Sat. Free dinner, 5–6 p.m., and other nightly specials. Net proceeds donated to a different charity each week. *5 p.m.–2 a.m., Heidelberg (3rd floor), 215 N. Main. $10–$500 buy-in to play poker, $2–$20 per-hand blackjack, $40 buy-in for Hold 'Em tournaments. 834–2237.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House VII barn, 1580 Dhu Varren Rd. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 747–8138.*

★**"Passion Sunday": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Music for Meditation.** St. Andrew's music director and organist Deborah Friauff directs the church's chancel choir in Liszt's seldom heard *Via Crucis*, a setting of the stations of the cross that incorporates 2 Latin hymns and 2 German chorales into some of Liszt's most personal and original music. *7:15 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 662–4466.*

Jazz Showcase: U-M School of Music. Performances by music student ensembles—including the **Latin Jazz Ensemble,** the **Creative Arts Orchestra,** the **Jazz Trombone Ensemble,** and the **Jazz Ensemble**—and U-M jazz professors **Geri Allen, Robert Hurst, Dennis Wilson,** and **Andrew Bishop.** *7:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $16 in advance at the Michigan League. 764–2538.*

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. *Every Sun. except Apr. 8.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union 2nd floor (Apr. 1, 15, & 22) & Michigan League 2nd floor (Apr. 29). $5. 763–6984.*

"Wolf Cry Wolf": New Theatre Project. Keith Paul Medelis directs a staged reading of Kevin Kautzman's drama, an exploration of the tricks our memory plays to cope with the shadows in our past. It's about a woman who returns to her native NYC for the first time in years to find that her estranged childhood friend has arranged a surprise reunion with a young man she would rather not see. *8 p.m., Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Pay-what-you-can admission. 645–9776.*

2 MONDAY

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** *Every Mon.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★**"Family Art Morning": Allen Creek Preschool.** Kids up to age 6, accompanied by a parent, are invited to work on arts and crafts projects. *10–11 a.m., Allen Creek Preschool, 2350 Miller. Free. 994–3382.*

"Make Way for Spring—School Break Getaway": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. *Apr. 2–6.* For kids accompanied by a parent. *Apr. 2:* **"Folktales & Fantasy,"** a chance to hear a folktale and then make a legend story collage with items found in nature. *Apr. 3:* **"Windowsill Wonders,"** a chance to make a windowsill garden. *Apr. 4:* **"Treasures & Trails,"** a chance to go on an eco-treasure hunt. *Apr. 5:* **"Potpourris & Bubble Baths,"** a guided walk through the conservatory, followed by a chance to make a potpourri or bubble bath to take home. *Apr. 6:* **"Sketchbook Detectives,"** a chance to sketch various plants. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. $5. Preregistration recommended. 647–7600.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon.* All invited to join this independent 30–member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($100 per semester dues for those who join). 665–9271.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m., & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Music and Movement: Preschool Brain Gym": Ann Arbor District Library.** Brain Gym instructor Susan Bruner leads kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) through a program of music and movement designed to improve brain function. *10:30–11:15 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All seniors age 55 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $7 (members, $6). 794–6250.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Movie Matinee: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Mon.* Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available ($2.50), 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. *12:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★**ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon., Wed., & Fri.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.; 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch (Wed.), 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy.; & 1–2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1–3 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Magician Jeff Wawrzaszek: Ann Arbor District Library.** Performance by this popular, award-winning magician. For preschoolers through 5th-graders. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**13th Annual Wet Meadow Burn: Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow.** City natural area program staff conduct the annual prescribed burn of the wet meadow. "It's quite a sight—my daughter has gone to prescribed burns since age 2 and loves them," says one parent. "I think it's quite safe for kids of any age if they're with a parent." If you'd like to help prepare for the burn, show up at 3:30 p.m. with a paper shopping bag (for seed collecting). Then help scatter native plant seeds on the meadow after the burn. In case of rain or high humidity, the burn is postponed until April 3 or later. *4:30 p.m., Buhr Park, 2751 Packard. Free. 971–5870.*

★**"Paved Roads Country Roads Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.* Fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training ride, 18–24 miles, along country roads west of town. *5 p.m., meet at Pine Cross Ln. east off Parker Rd. (between Jackson & Liberty), Scio Twp. Free. 426–5116.*

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Mon.* All invited to read from and discuss this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Also, local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a **study group** on the book, every Thurs., noon–1:30 p.m. *6:45–8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327–0270.*

★**Cupcake Decorating Contest: Ann Arbor District Library.** All youth in grades 4–12 invited to make a fancy decoration for a cupcake. Judges pick the best in each age group, and you get to eat your cupcake when the contest is over. Supplies provided. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"All About Lavender": Herb Study Group.** A club member TBA discusses the best varieties of lavender to grow locally, as well as recipes and uses for lavender. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. 647–7600.*

Gotye: The Blind Pig. Gotye is the stage name of Wally De Backer, a Belgian-born, Australian-bred experimental art-pop singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who's been compared to Peter Gabriel and Sting. "*Making Mirrors* reveals a love of the '80s pop scene [but] doesn't discriminate against other decades, as evident on the impossibly uplifting '60s retro soul of 'I Feel Better,' the '70s West Coast harmonies of the ethereal lullaby-like closer 'Bronte,' the '90s Beck-esque scuzzy garage rock of 'Easy Way Out,' and the 2000s hushed, claustrophobic dubstep of 'Don't Worry, We'll Be Watching You,' says alllmusic.com writer Jon OBrien in his review of Gotye's new CD. "But it's the era of early new wave, dub, and worldbeat which defines its 12 tracks." Opening act is **Kimbra,** a soul- and jazz-inflected pop singer-songwriter from New Zealand who lent her luminous voice to several Gotye records, including his current hit single "Somebody That I Used to Know." *7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $28 in advance at etix.com, $30 at the door. 996–8555.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon.* A wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, with live music. All dances taught. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 426–0241.*

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** *Apr. 2, 9, & 23.* SunAh Lee and Christopher Harding (Apr. 2 & 9) and Aaron Berofsky (Apr. 23) direct U-M music students in an informal concert of classical music. Proceeds benefit a local charity. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free; donations accepted. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★**Campus Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Graduate students conduct this ensemble of non-music majors in Saint-Saens's *Samson et Dalilia Bacchanale,* Brahms' Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D major with violinist **Timothy Steeves,** and Dvorak's Symphony no. 9. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

3 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11–11:30 a.m.; Wed. 6–6:30 p.m.; & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, and at 1 p.m. **mah-jongg, bridge** and other **card games, board games, Wii sports,** and **quilting** and other **craft projects.** Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor. Storytelling program presented by retired U-M librarian and Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild member **Lyn Davidge.**

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All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area invited. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson. $16. Preregistration required via email to fuzzy_sergeant@yahoo.com. 879–0488.*

Erin Dilly: U-M Margaret Waterman Alumnae Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series. Talk by this Tony-nominated actress and singer, star of the 2005 Broadway production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Note:* These talks usually sell out. *11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. $40. 971–6474.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Apr. 3 & 10.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. *Apr 3:* University of Oregon art history professor emerita Ellen Laing on **"'Living Wealth Gods' in the Chinese Popular Print (nianhua) Tradition."** *Apr. 10:* Emory University global health research professor Cheng Huang on **"Natural Experiments in Health Research: What We Could Learn from the Chinese 1959–61 Famine and Recent Mega Events in China."** *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities.** *Apr. 3 & 10.* Bring a bag lunch. *Apr. 3:* Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Bill Bolcom, a U-M music professor emeritus, discusses **"Maverick American Music."** *Apr. 10:* University of Capetown English professor Imraan Coovadia, an award-winning novelist, on **"Nabokov's *Lolita* and Other Butterflies."** *Noon–1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Life Size Candyland": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to play a giant version of this iconic board game. Prizes. Other board games available to play while you wait your turn. *1–4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"New Trends in Popular Culture: From Reality Television to Hip-Hop and 'Jerkin'": U-M Program in American Culture Goldring Symposium on Media and American Popular Culture.** Panel discussion with University of Minnesota communication studies professor Laurie Ouellette, Brandeis University music professor Wayne Marshall, and nonfiction TV producer Joel Zimmer, producer of *America's Got Talent, Disaster Date,* and *Friend Zone.* Reception follows. *4–6 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall Auditorium, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 763–1460.*

★**"After the Fall: Darwin and Milton on Descent": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M anthropology professor Gillian Feeley-Harnik. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 998–6251.*

★**Mark Merlis: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Fiction reading by this Philadelphia-based American health policy consultant, an award-winning novelist whose wry, cynically detached writing juxtaposes contemporary gay concerns against historical parallels. *5:10 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Focus on Women: The Huron River Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring** Society. *Every Tues.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–40 miles, to Dexter and back. Other Tues. rides: **"Tuesday Ride to Chelsea and Beyond"** (10 a.m., Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd., 996–8440), a moderate-paced ride, 35–40 miles, to Chelsea for breakfast. *6 p.m., meet at Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 662–0205.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/ Free. 945–3035.*

★**"Felt Ball Fun": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids (grade K & up) and adults invited to make and play with a felt ball. Materials provided. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Dragonfly Dialogues: Memories of an Awakening Spirit": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Local spiritual counselor Lorna Brown discusses her new spiritual memoir. Signing. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Owen Laukkanen: Nicola's Books.** This Toronto writer reads from ***The Professionals,*** his debut novel about recent college grads, stuck in a terrible job market, who turn to kidnapping to make a living. Suspense novelist Jonathan Kellerman calls it "a page-turning blend of classic suspense fiction and chillingly postmodern amorality." Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $7 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70–member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445–1925.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tues.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7:30–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($80 per semester dues for those who join). 355–7738.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *Mira Si Yo Te Querré,* Spanish novelist Luis Leante's tale of a love affair spanning 30 years, including the war in the Western Sahara. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Body, Soul, and Spirit: The Makeup of the Human Being": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Talk by Lansing attorney Dwight Ebaugh, a well-known lecturer on Steiner's thought. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 944–4903.*

★**Annual Holy Week Concert: Our Own Thing Chorale.** U-M music professor emeritus Willis Patterson directs this popular local choir in a program of spirituals, works by African American composers, and Easter music. *7:30 p.m., Bethel AME Church, 900 John A. Woods Dr. Free; donations accepted. 663–3800.*

★**German Speakers Round Table.** *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394.*

★**"Connecting": U-M School of Music/UMMA.** Jerry Blackstone directs the **U-M Chamber Choir** in works that echo certain themes in the museum's collection—summer, the Virgin Mary, and rebirth. *8 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0594, 763–UMMA.*

★**"Viewing Night": U-M Detroit Observatory.** *Apr. 3 & 17.* All invited to peer at the night sky through antique telescopes. The Observatory dome can be opened only during mild, dry weather, so check astro.lsa.umich.edu/outreach/detroit to see if the event has been canceled due to weather conditions. *8:30–10 p.m. (Apr. 3) & 9–10:30 p.m. (Apr. 17), U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 763–3482.*

4 WEDNESDAY

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Every Wed. Apr. 4:* Moscow native Nina Dmitrieva discusses **"A Glimpse of Russia and the Moscow I Knew."** *Apr. 11:* AASO general manager Zac Moore on **"The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: Listen and Learn."** *Apr. 18:* Ford Presidential Library archivist Donna Lehman on **"Anatomy of a Supreme Court Appointment."** *Apr. 25:* St. Andrew's Episcopal Church minister Lew Towler presents the autobiographical talk, **"A Young SEABEE Enters the Navy and Comes Home During WW II."** *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Brown Bag Organ Series: U-M School of Music.** Performance by local organist **Timothy Huth.** *12:15–12:45 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Shrinky Dink Craft Sensation": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and kids in grade 4 &

up invited to see what they can make using Shrinky Dink plastic. Material provided. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★"Paper Capers": Ann Arbor District Library. Ecology Center staff explain the process of recycling paper and show kids in grades K–3 how to make a handmade piece of recycled paper to take home. *2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Baseball vs. CMU. The April schedule also includes games vs. **MSU** (Apr. 6, 5:30 p.m., & Apr. 8, 3 p.m.), **Bowling Green** (Apr. 10, 6 p.m.), **Toledo** (Apr. 11, 6 p.m.) and **EMU** (Apr. 18, 6 p.m.) and a 4–game series (with a Sat. doubleheader) vs. **Northwestern** (Apr. 20, 6 p.m., & Apr. 21 & 22, 1 p.m.). *4 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

★U-M Center for Korean Studies Lecture Series. *Apr. 4 & 11.* Lectures by visiting scholars. *Apr. 4:* University of Missouri law professor Ilhyung Lee on **"In re Korea: Domain Name Disputes Under the UDRP."** *Apr. 11:* Brown University East Asian studies professor Samuel Perry on **"Sappho in Red: Proletarian Literature, Gender, and Colonial Korea."** *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–1825.*

★"A Global Cleanout of Nuclear Weapon Materials": U-M Physics Department 12th Annual Ford Motor Company Lecture. Talk by Princeton University public and international affairs professor Frank von Hippel. *4 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 764–4437.*

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers. *Every Wed.* All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set if you have one. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

★"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Wed.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22–25 miles, and a slow-paced ride, 13–18 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 35th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. Other Wed. rides: **"Early Morning Ride from Ann Arbor West Side"** (10 a.m., Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport, 649–9762), a moderate-paced 40-mile ride to Chelsea or Whitmore Lake. **"Superior Salem Dirt Road"** *(10 a.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church parking lot, Gotfredson Rd. at Ann Arbor–Plymouth Rd., 663–5060, 248–437–5067, 482–5103),* a slow/moderate-paced ride, 19 miles or more, along gravel country roads. *5:30 p.m. sharp, meet at Paladin parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426–5116 (longer ride), 665–4552 & 761–2659 (shorter ride).*

★Politics as Poetry": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. L.A.-based writer, lecturer, and media ecologist **Gerry Fialka** gives a talk, illustrated with live readings by area poets, on the works of several politically engaged poets from Daniel Berrigan and Ed Sanders to Gil Scott-Heron and discusses the motives behind *The Battle of Algiers,* an influential 1965 film about an urban terrorist insurgency. *6–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"Duct Tape Doings": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades 6–12 invited to make a craft with duct tape. Materials provided. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

"A Taste of Tunisian Foodways": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young is joined by Zingerman's managers Sarah Mays and Amos Arinda to host a dinner featuring Jewish Tunisian recipes and hear stories about Jewish Tunisian mothers and grandmothers. *7–10 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★"Everything You Wanted to Know about a Flower Show": Ann Arbor Garden Club. Club members discuss their upcoming flower show, with examples of some floral designs and information about how to enter. *7–8:30 p.m., Marie Smith residence, call for directions. Free. 788–3298.*

★"Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook and His Michigan Law Quadrangle": Nicola's Books. Retired U-M Law Library director **Margaret Leary** discusses her book about the problems that jeopardized Cook's 1930 gift that financed the U-M law quad. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Bike Ride: Wheels in Motion. *Every Wed.* Mountain-bike rides through different local trails and parks each week. *7:30 p.m., 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 971–2121.*

★Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss Simon Garfield's ***Just My Type: A Book about Fonts.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★"Our Most Important Policy Failure—Energy": U-M Ford Presidential Library. Talk by **Frank Zarb,** the "Energy Czar" under President Ford during the 1970s energy crisis. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205–0555.*

★"Tenebrae": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. The St. Andrew's Adult Choir performs the ancient funeral service for the crucified Messiah. The program features Psalms and readings set to plainsong alternating with Healey Willan's choral responses. *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.*

★Concert Band: U-M School of Music. Rodney Dorsey conducts this music student ensemble in Zare's *Lift Off,* Benson's *Dawn's Early Light,* Holst's Suite no. 2 in F major, Haydn's Serenade no. 3 in C major, Husa's *Al Fresco,* Turrin's *Fandango* with trumpeter **William Campbell** and trombonist **David Jackson,** and Texidor's *Amparito Roca. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Mac Miller: EMU Convocation Center. Acclaimed young Pittsburgh hip-hop MC known for his memorable lyrics and impressive freestyle skills. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets $30 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center (emutix.com) and at the door. 487–2282.*

JaLaLa Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. Vocal music supergroup featuring New York Voices member **Lauren Kinhan and** 2 former members of the celebrated vocalese trio The Manhattan Transfer, **Janis Siegel** and **Laurel Massé.** Today's program includes originals, covers of everyone from Queen to Dolly Parton, and vocalese classics by Lambert, Hendricks, and Ross. With pianist Yaron Gershovsky, bassist Steven LaSpina, and drummer Marcello Pelitteri. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"New Bosses of Comedy": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Performances by 4 local African American underground comics—**Meldon Williams, Hill Daddy, Patrick Kinsey,** and **Ricarlo Flanagan**—who are known for their biting takes on relationships, racial relations, workplace issues, and poverty. Emcee is **Kool Keith,** a founding member of the L.O.L. Comedy Group who hosts the weekly "L.O.L. Lounge" at Our Brother's Place in Toledo. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 in advance, $12 at the door. 996–9080.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

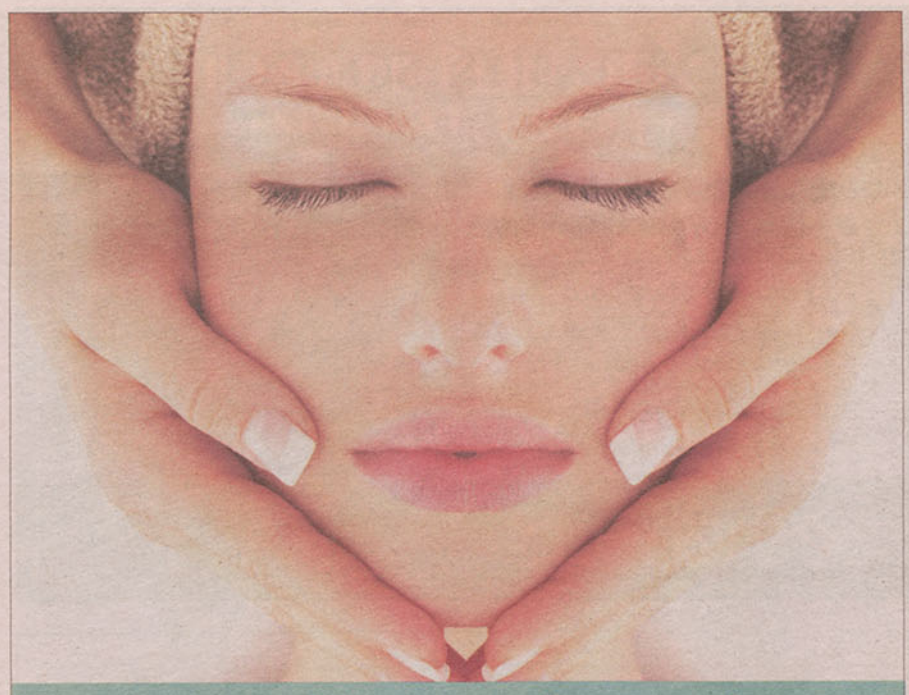
Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by beginning (7 & 8 p.m.) & intermediate (7:30 p.m., 3437 Mason Hall) swing lessons. *9–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. $5 (students, $4). 945–8428.*

5 THURSDAY

★"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society. *Every Thurs., Apr. 5–May 24.* All invited to join club members for a walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants, which begin arriving in earnest toward the end of April. *8–11 a.m., meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. 994–3569.*

★"Spring Unfolding Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Thurs.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced ride, 10–15 miles, around Ann Arbor neighborhoods to explore the delights of local gardens, parks, and cafes. Other Thurs. rides: **"Hilly Ride"** *(6 p.m., Fuller Pool parking lot, 662–0205).* Slow-paced ride, 15–25 miles, through North Campus, Barton Hills, and scenic roads north of town. *10 a.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 971–5763, 663–5060.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thurs.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this intricate game played with colorful tiles. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*



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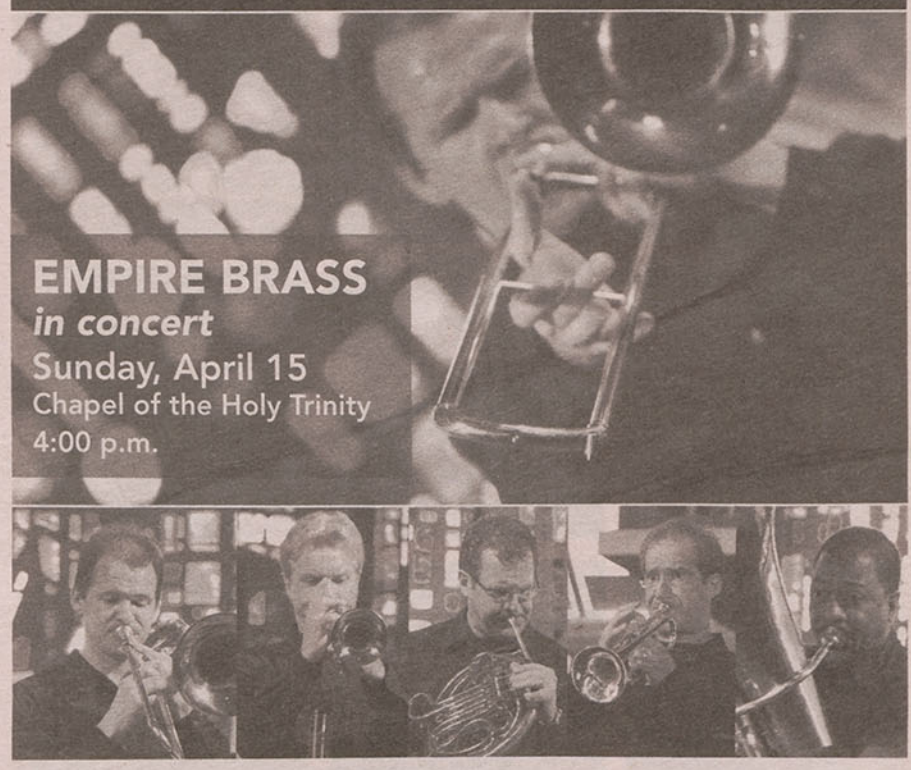

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Photo: Joanne Leonard, *Newspaper Diary: Trompe l'Oeil Photographs*

In the Gallery

Institute for the Humanities gallery, 202 S. Thayer. Gallery hours: M-F 9am-5pm, Sat 11am-3pm

April 5 – May 31 — *Newspaper Diary: Trompe l'Oeil Photographs* by **Joanne Leonard.** On exhibit are photographs of momentary collages contrasting the historical weight and relative durability of books with fleeting news images carefully propped up on the book's open pages.

April 5 — Gallery reception for *Newspaper Diary* and **Joanne Leonard,** 5:30pm–7pm

Author's Forum

Author's Forum events are held in the Hatcher Graduate Library, library gallery, room 100, at 5:30

April 4 — *Breaking and Entering.*
A Conversation with **Eileen Pollack** and **JoEllen Vinyard**

April 10 — *The Institute for Taxi Poetry.*
A Conversation with **Imraan Coovadia** and **Daniel Herwitz**

Brown Bag Lectures

Brown Bag lectures are held on Tuesdays in 202 S. Thayer, room 2022, at 12:30pm

Apr 3 — **William Bolcom,** music
"Maverick American Music"

Apr 10 — **Imraan Coovadia,** University of Capetown, *Visiting Fellow*
"How to Read *Lolita*"

Seminars

May 4 & 5 — 2012 Spring Seminar: *Log On to the Humanities: How New Technologies Expand the Humanities and How They Don't*

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"Music How I Love Thee: Let Me Count the Ways": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs., Apr 5–May 10.* A series of 6 weekly lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. *Apr. 5:* U-M musicology professor emeritus Richard Crawford on **"Across the Great Divide: Writing America's Music History."** *Apr. 12:* U-M musicology professor Charles Hiroshi Garrett on **"Joking Matters: Humor and American Music."** *Apr. 19:* Bowling Green State University performance studies professor Robert Saterlee, an accomplished concert pianist, on **"A Performer Looks at Modern American Music."** *Apr. 26:* U-M musicology professor emeritus Richard Crawford on **"The Classical Gershwin and Potentialities."** *May 3:* U-M musicology professor Mark Clague on **"'You Are the Sunshine of My Life': The People, Politics, and Great Performances of Motown."** *May 10:* U-M music professor emeritus James Dapogny, a renowned early-jazz pianist and bandleader, on **"The Entry and Departure of Jazz in America's Popular Culture."** *10–11:30 a.m., Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $10 per lecture, $50 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★**Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. *Apr. 5:* Screening of the ***The Big Winner,*** the 1989 Folksbiene Playhouse (NYC) production of I.D. Berkowitz's musical adapted from a comic Sholem Aleichem story about a poor tailor who wins the lottery. Yiddish, subtitles. *Apr. 12:* Ann Arborite Miriam Brysk gives an autobiographical talk on **"The Lives of the Partisans in the Lipiczanka Forest."** *Apr. 19:* Mindo Chocolate Makers (Dexter) co-owner Barbara Wilson discusses, with taste samples, **"The Process of Making Gourmet Chocolate."** *Apr. 26:* St. Joseph Mercy Hospital injury prevention coordinator Joyce Kessler discusses **"Driving Safety."** *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

★**"Salomon Maimon and the Pantheism Controversy": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk about the Jewish philosopher by MSU religious studies professor Benjamin Pollock. *Noon, 1022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** *Apr. 5 & 12.* Talks by visiting scholars. *Apr. 5:* University of London Japanese studies professor Andrew Gerstle on **"Parody and Satire in Shunga: Takehara Shunchosai's *Pillow Book for the Young* (1776)."** *Apr. 12:* Talk by Japanese law expert Eric Feldman on **"The Fukushima Disaster: Law, Politics, and Compensation in Japan."** *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–4301.*

★**"God of Me": Temple Beth Emeth Spirituality Book Club.** *Apr. 5 & 10.* All invited to discuss David Lyon's book about how to have a personal relationship with God. *Noon–1:30 p.m. (Apr. 5) & 7:30–9 p.m. (Apr. 10), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665–4744.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Every Thurs.* Performances by area & visiting musicians. *Apr. 5:* Contemporary dance by the **U-M Freshman Touring Company.** *Apr. 12:* Classical, romantic, and modern works by **U-M strings students.** *Apr. 19:* Trombone and piano music by the **U-M Outreach Program for the Performing Arts.** *Apr. 26:* Cello recital by **Cellochan.** *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★**"Beaded Macrame Bracelets": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for adults & teens in grade 6 & up. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"If You Build It, He Will Come…and Other Fantasies about Integrated Health Care for American Indians": U-M School of Public Health.** Talk by University of New Mexico professor of family and community medicine Tassy Parker. *3–4:30 p.m., 1655 SPH I, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. 764–5425.*

★**"Prostitution Reform as a Symptom of EU Integration Anxieties": U-M Center for European Studies Conversations on Europe.** Talk by Oberlin College law & society professor Greggor Mattson. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

"Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Every Thurs.* Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Tastings with cheese and appetizers. Topics: **"Pinot Grigio vs. Pinot Gris"** (Apr. 5), **"Wines of Michigan"** (Apr. 12), **"Eco-Friendly Wines"** (Apr. 19), and **"Spanish Whites"** (Apr. 26). Also, Michigan beer tastings (price varies) at 5 p.m. on Apr. 6 & 20. *5–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $17. 997–7500.*

★**"Follow the Sun": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Acclaimed jazz pianist **Shelly Berg** discusses his work. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Poetry and fiction readings by the 2011–2012 Zell Fellows, including Pakistani fiction writer **Roohi Choudhry,** California fiction writer **Leigh Gallagher,** Detroit poet **Francine J. Harris,** Iowa fiction writer **Jennifer Tomscha,** fiction writer and Arabic translator **Tricia Khleif,** and Michigan poets **Jaimien Delp** and **Ann Marie Thornburg.** *5:10 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"A Secret in the Life of Bees": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** U-M classical studies lecturer Despina Margomenou discusses the unexpected outcome of a research project on food storage in prehistoric northern Greece. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

★**Featured Game Night: Vault of Midnight.** *Apr. 5 & 12.* All invited to try out one of the store's board games, including **Ora et Labora** (Apr. 5) and **Core Worlds** (Apr. 12). *6–7 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. Free. 998–1413.*

★**"The Interplay of Language and Gaze in Virtual Environments": U-M Theme Semester on Language.** Talk by Saarland University (Germany) computational linguistics professor Matthew Crocker. *6–7:30 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery (Room 100), enter from the Diag. Free. 764–0400.*

★**Comhaltas.** *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *6:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 474–1569.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. *7 p.m., CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. $10. 973–6084, 663–0036.*

★**"Cork Trivet-Making": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for adults and kids in grade 6 & up. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Allergies and Asthma Arrested": Washtenaw Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Roznay on natural treatments for lung and sinus problems. *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975–4500.*

★**"Shipwrecked!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Wild Swan Theater director Hilary Cohen, Wild Swan actors, and playwright Jeff Duncan discuss the making of this classy local children's theater production of Duncan's new play (see 9 Monday listing). *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Face the Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** In conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the U-M student-run radio station WCBN-FM, the celebrated DJ **arwulf arwulf** hosts a live broadcast of his eclectic and unpredictable weekly WCBN show, which has been on the air since it debuted as "You've Got to Be Modernistic" in 1980. Tonight's show features an "Ann Arbor Eye and Ear Report," arwulf's personal account of local music, art, and culture over the past 4 decades. It concludes with arwulf performing his poetry and spoken word improvisations in a collaboration with the **U-M Creative Arts Orchestra,** a music student improvisational ensemble. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by live music TBA, with free 40th Anniversary Blend coffee from the Ugly Mug. *7 p.m., U-M Work Gallery, 306 S. State. Free. 769–2999.*

Bolcom and Morris: King's Keyboard House. Ann Arbor's own nationally renowned husband-and-wife duo of pianist (and Pulitzer Prize–winning composer) Bill Bolcom and mezzo-soprano Joan Morris are celebrated exponents of early American popular song, which they perform with the sparkle and enthusiasm of true aficionados. Their repertoire ranges from 19th-century parlor songs to Bolcom's collaborations with lyricist Arnold Weinstein, and the material on their new CD, *Someone Talked: Memories of World War II,* ranges from "We'll Meet Again," "Lili Marlene," and "G.I. Jive" to "A Zoot Suit" and "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition." "Together the couple is, to borrow the title of an early Bolcom opera, 'dynamite tonight,'" says a *San Francisco Examiner* writer. "His brilliantly propulsive, imaginatively embellished pianism provides her with a strong rhythmic framework. And Morris plumbs every number for its specific emotional content." *7 p.m., King's, 2363 E. Stadium. $20. 663–3381.*

"Pangea": 12th Annual Latin@ Culture Show. U-M students present a variety show of Latino music,

Metropolitan Opera Live Broadcasts

Like football on TV

Many years ago, when my brother and I were teenagers, my mom occasionally drove us to New York City, to the Metropolitan Opera House. It was always special and memorable. Two years ago, I got to go back to the Met, albeit only virtually, without flying to Manhattan. Instead, I drove ten minutes to the Quality 16 and saw *Les Contes d'Hoffman*, broadcast live in HD from the Met.

Now it was I who was taking my teenage daughter to her first time at the Met. And we were running late. She kept hurrying me, saying we may not get in if we arrive at the last minute. I reassured her, "This is opera. There'll be plenty of seats." Wrong. Two theaters at the multiplex were nearly full by the time we got there.

It's easy to see why: if you can't fly to New York and shell out up to $445 per ticket, you can spend a Saturday afternoon enjoying incredible music, in comfortable seats, probably seeing and hearing everything better than you would at the Met, all for only $23. And you sure can't bring popcorn and Pepsi into the Met!

Oh, and forget beefy belters, the stereotypically corpulent opera singers. These broadcasts feature not only glorious voices, but also gorgeous sopranos, hunky (so I'm told) tenors, performers who can act nearly as well as they sing, and staging, sets, and choreography that rival Broadway and Hollywood.

Seeing opera in a movie theater instead of a concert hall is like watching football on TV rather than in a stadium: you gain some and lose some. The cameras allow us to see sights, like a coloratura's facial gymnastics as she navigates the intricate passages of her aria, that we'd probably never see even from front-row seats at the Met. But, as with sports broadcasts, I find the commentators intrude into the game/opera. I don't really want to hear even a super diva—previous commentators have included Deborah Voigt and Rene Fleming—interviewing a tenor off stage seconds after he's witnessed his lover's death on stage. (Though it was hilarious hearing prima donna Anna Netrebko's response when asked what's her favorite thing about her role in *Les Contes d'Hoffman:* "It's short.")

The Met's 2011–2012 eleven-event broadcast season began in October and will conclude this month with Massenet's *Manon* on April 7 and Verdi's *La Traviata* on April 14. Both plots revolve around strong, complicated, and ultimately tragic heroines and the men who fall for them despite their own fathers' objections. Both are wonderful vehicles for superb sopranos and will be portrayed here by, respectively, Netrebko and Natalie Dessay, two of the finest divas of our time.

—Sandor Slomovits

dance, spoken word, and theater performances that emphasize the influence other cultures have had on Latino culture. The program includes traditional the Colombian *cumbia* dance, a Persian dance ensemble, and more. *7–9 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $7. LatinoCultureShow@umich.edu*

★**"Next Fall": U-M Basement Arts.** *Apr. 5–7.* Jon Manganello directs Geoffrey Nauffts' critically acclaimed drama, a 2010 Broadway hit that traces, with sharp humor and probing honesty, the 5-year relationship of an unlikely gay couple, a confirmed atheist and a devout Christian, closeted from his family, who worries his partner will end up in Hell. "Even as you're being entertained by the witty talk of ingratiatingly imperfect people, feeling as comfortable as if you were watching your favorite long-running sitcom, big and uneasy questions—really big ones, without answers—are forming in the back of your mind. Don't expect them to go away when the play is over," says *New York Times* theater critic Ben Brantley, who calls the play "an intellectual stealth bomb." *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu.*

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 7 p.m.

"Michigan Superstars: J. Tree Cellars": Produce Station (un)Corked. Jorge Lopez Chavez and Eric Lundy lead tastings of 5 wines made by Blissfield winemaker Jon Treloar. *7:30–8:30 p.m., The Last Word, 301 W. Huron. $10 in advance at producestation.com/wine. 663–7848.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-sole shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

★**"Take Back the Night": Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape.** A rally to demonstrate against rape, featuring keynote speaker **Kalimah Johnson,** founder of the Detroit-based SASHA Center, a sexual assault prevention and education agency. With performances by local R&B-pop-rock group **I-Khonz** and U-M student dance group **Cadence.** Followed by a march from the Diag around campus and through downtown. Rain or shine. *7:30 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. tbtnannarbor.org.*

St. Lawrence String Quartet: University Musical Society. This acclaimed Canadian chamber ensemble has been together for over 20 years, performing with "an almost disturbing intensity," according to a *New York Times* review. Tonight's program includes Haydn's Quartet No. 57 in C Major and No. 61 in D Minor, Schafer's Quartet No. 3, and a new piece composed for the SLSQ by award-winning Argentinian composer Osvaldo Golijov. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $22–$46 at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Cloud Nine": U-M Theatre Department. See 1 Sunday. 7:30 p.m.

"Dead Man's Shoes": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Arts Chorale: U-M School of Music.** Grad student Arian Khaefi conducts this ensemble of nonmusic majors in Paul Rardin's "I'm A-Rollin'," William Dawson's "Ain'a That Good News," William Schuman's "To All to Each," Knut Nystedt's "Peace I Leave with You," Sarah Hopkins' "Past Life Melodies," Brahms' "Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren," and William Averitt's "Afro-American Fragments." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Campus Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** This ensemble of nonmusic majors performs works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Mc-*

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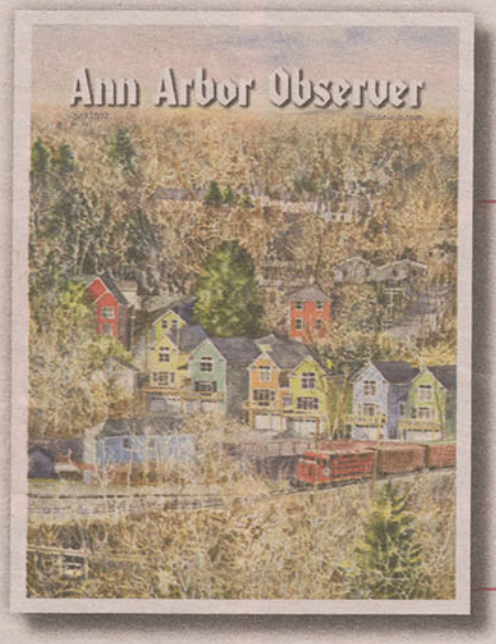

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Intosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.

★**Clocks in Motion: U-M School of Music.** This Wisconsin-based new-music ensemble performs works by French-Greek composer Iannis Xenakis, including the epic *Pleaides* for 6 percussionists and another work TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Derivatives of Identity": U-M Dance Department BFA Thesis Concert.** *Apr. 8–10.* A concert of new solo and group works choreographed by U-M dance seniors **Jessica Hoyt, GingerAnn Neslund, Kalila Kingsford Smith,** and **Briana Stuart.** Hoyt's group work explores the way personal relationships shape an individual's life journey, and her solo depicts a character struggling to escape anxiety. Neslund's group work is based on the "Ask 4 Help" motto of the teen suicide prevention organization Yellow Ribbon, and her solo is inspired by the feelings of shame that follow rejection by a significant other. Smith's *Café Noir* is a group work that employs the sharp lighting and angular perspectives of film noir to explore the hidden masks and shadows within one's identity. Stuart's *The Walk* is a group work exploring the taboo topic of social privilege, and her solo, *Just My Reality,* explores fluctuations of identity in different social spaces through quirky yet highly technical movement. *8 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Center Video Studio, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. Doors open at 7 p.m. 763–5461.*

White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 5–7.* This popular comic, winner of the 2004 Michigan Comedy Survivor competition, performs with a nervous energy that regularly explodes into bizarre observations and goofy enlightenments about jumping rope, talking sirens, bar codes, and other pointless things you've never stopped to think about. "If you liked the kid in the lunchroom who made you spit milk out your nose, you'll love Mike Green," says the *Detroit Free Press.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

6 FRIDAY

★**"Hallyu 2.0: The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media": U-M Center for Korean Studies.** A daylong conference with talks by U-M and visiting scholars on *hallyu*—a term for the widespread popularity of Korean cultural products—and social media. Full schedule at ii.umich.edu/ncks/eventsprograms/conferencessymposia. *9 a.m.–noon & 1–5 p.m., location TBA. Free. hallyu2point0@umich.edu.*

★**"Whitmore Lake Coffee Break": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Fri. Slow-paced 20-mile ride to the Coney Island in Whitmore Lake. *10 a.m., Olson Park, Dhu Varren at Pontiac Trail. Free. 663–4498.*

★**"Lunchtime Tour": UMMA.** Student docents give a 30-minute tour of the art museum. *12:15–12:45 p.m., meet at the UMMA information desk, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Apr. 6 & 7.* Video game tournaments. *Apr. 6:* **"Mario Kart."** For all ages. *Apr. 7:* **"Wii Sports Resort."** For teams of all ages. *6–8:30 p.m. (Apr. 6) & 1–4 p.m. (Apr. 7), AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Team USA Under-17 vs. Indiana. The younger of the 2 Ann Arbor–based USA Hockey national development teams plays this U.S. Hockey League rival. Team USA Under–17 concludes its home season with a match vs. **Chicago** on Apr. 7. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $6 (seniors, students, & children, $4; kids under 5, free). 327–9251.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

★**Poetry Reading: One Pause Poetry April Reading Series.** Readings by 3 award-winning poets, including renowned Arab American poet **Khaled Mattawa,** Rutgers University creative writing instructor **Jennifer Chang,** and SUNY English professor **Aimee Nezhukumatathil.** Mattawa's poetry frequently explores the intersection of culture, narrative, and memory. Chang's lyrical poetry revolves around natural landscapes and explores the shifting boundaries between the self and the world. Nezhukumatathil's lush poetry covers everything from eating eels in the Ozarks to the history of red dye. The three also discuss their poetry on Apr. 7 (10:30 a.m.–noon). *7–9 p.m., METAL, 220 Felch. Free. 604–0090.*

Machines of Loving Grace

Who's in charge here?

"I like to think / (right now, please!) / of a cybernetic forest / filled with pines and electronics," wrote the late American poet and writer Richard Brautigan, imagining a utopian future "where deer stroll peacefully / past computers / as if they were flowers." The poem, "All Watched Over by Machines of Loving Grace," is an orderly, naively wishful, and claustrophobic lyric that envisions a harmonious existence presided over by machines. While machines' dominion in our daily lives is still debatable, they openly rule the exhibit *Machines of Loving Grace* at LePop Gallery (a traveling "pop-up" gallery that uses empty commercial spaces, currently the former MyBuys space on Main Street).

Dazzlingly prominent throughout the exhibit is Ypsilanti-based artist Cre Fuller's fantastic array of tabletop lamps shaped like robot heads. Part of his "Tin Angry Men" collection, each robot possesses distinct facial features made up of repurposed metal parts, including coffee pots, cooking accoutrements, springs, and other odds and ends, with colored light bulbs for eyes. As Fuller's title suggests, they are a sullen bunch. One grim robot (each is named *Untitled,* to its detriment, I think, given their unique identities) resembles a demonic skull, with bared teeth, nasal cavity, large eye sockets, and two gleaming horns.

Stephen Kade's *Prologue*

Another impressively crafted anthropomorphized sculpture made of found and reclaimed metal is sculptor Rick Cronn's *Ur Videohead,* a six-foot-ten humanoid standing on a wheeled base and fashioned from chicken wire, hammock and tent poles, and blue LED rope lights. Where we would expect a face, there is instead a portable video player and, in the back of the skull, a mounted speaker. While *Ur Videohead* is no Terminator, its height, skeletal appearance, and Cyclopean video screen make it a tad bit intimidating, a feeling heightened by one brief video clip of an eyeball being slit open with a scalpel.

The exhibit features many other fanciful works by Michigan artists, each possessing obvious skill and imagination. RoboTodd's *High Five 4000* is a mechanical and electric apparatus that offers a series of high fives from a flesh-toned rubber hand when you step on an accompanying foot pedal. Stephen Kade's vivid and detailed illustrations depict fairy-tale creatures and sentient toys, including a homicidal-looking monkey holding cymbals on either side of Earth. Melvin McGee's paintings also portray mythical beings in a colorful cartoon style—his painting *Sasquatch Gets a Heart* shows the great hairy beast strapped down in a field and surrounded by blue aliens. Unfortunately, these two illustrators' overlapping styles soon felt redundant, and I grew tired of so much whimsy.

Others, however, couldn't get enough. I couldn't help but notice a man lifting up a young, smiling girl, his daughter, to receive a high five, and then another, and another.

The exhibit runs through April 3.

—Stephanie Douglass

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *The Print 2012* (Apr. 27–June 20). Juried exhibition of works by Michigan artists. Reception Apr. 27, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Avenue. *Ann Arbor Public Schools Annual Student Art Exhibit* (April 18–May 29). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Art That Is Local Gallery, Whole Foods Market mezzanine level, 3135 Washtenaw. *Earth Awakenings* (Apr. 4–June 12). Reception Apr. 17, 6–7:30 p.m. Daily 8 a.m.–10 p.m. 975–4500.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *Natura* (Apr. 1–28). New works by ceramicists Sarah Abend, Janelle Songer, and Geralyn Vankerschaever. Reception Apr. 6, 7–9 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. noon–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 662–7927.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Acrylics by Joyce Tikham and Photography by Frederick Beutler* (Apr. 1–30). Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 998–9353.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals), *Main Hospital:* *Colour Reflection: Oil on Linen by Michelle Richeson; Follow a River: Japanese Style Woodblock Prints by Linda J. Beeman; Creatures of Clay: Ceramic Sculpture by Stacie Sabady* (all exhibits run Apr. 16–June 11). ***Taubman Center:*** *South of the Border: Art Quilts by Michigan Quilt Artists; Original Origami Designs by Beth Johnson; Brighter Michigan: Photography by the Exposure Detroit Photography Group; Beyond the Bounds: Book Arts by U-M School of Art & Design Students* (Apr. 16–June 11). ***Comprehensive Cancer Center:*** *European Style Watercolors by Peter Lichomski* (Apr. 16–July 30). *Annie's Girls: Fiber & Mixed Media Works by Michele Sapp* (Apr. 16–Aug. 13). Daily 8 a.m.–8 p.m. 936–ARTS.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Drawings and Paintings by Cathy Barry* (Apr. 3–30). Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

LePop Gallery, 101 N. Main. *Machines of Loving Grace* (through Apr. 3). (See review, above). Sculptures and multimedia works that revolve around human relationships with machines. Mon.–Wed. 6–9 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. by appointment. 409–1184.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *8th Annual Docent Art Exhibit* (Apr. 5–28). Works by RAC volunteers. Reception April 14, 5–7 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–9 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *Newspaper Diary: Trompe L'Oeil Photographs* (Apr. 5–May 31). Works by Joanne Leonard. Reception Apr. 5, 5:30–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M International Institute Gallery, 1080 South University. *PhotoVoice: 3/11 Disasters Through Women's Lenses* (through Apr. 30). Mon.–Fri. 7 a.m.–10 p.m. 763–4301.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *Recent Acquisitions: Curator's Choice, Part II* (Mar. 31–Aug. 5). Exhibit of Asian art that includes historic and modern ceramics, woodwork, and basketry. Tues.–Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 763–UMMA.

U-M Rackham Gallery, 915 E. Washington (4th floor). *Rackham Centennial Exhibit* (Apr. 1–May 1). Works in various media by Michigan-based U-M Art & Design alums who went on to become art educators. 998–6270.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *Synthesis: The A&D Senior Show* (Apr. 13–29). Works by A&D seniors. Part of the show is also at the U-M Warren Robbins Center and U-M Work galleries (see below). Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–2082.

U-M Warren Robbins Center (U-M School of Art & Design), Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel. *Synthesis: The A&D Senior Show* (Apr. 13–29). 764–0397.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *Synthesis: The A&D Senior Show* (Apr. 13–29). Tues.–Sun. noon–7 p.m. 998–6178.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Vessels: Sculptural Representations and Expressions of Vessels* (Mar. 27–May 6). Works by Middy Potter. Reception Mar. 30, 7–10 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

★**"Next Fall": U-M Basement Arts.** See 5 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★**Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** *Apr. 6 & 20.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *An Outline of Occult Science.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944–4903.*

★**Good Friday Tenebrae: First Presbyterian Church.** The church's chancel choir performs Haydn's somber *Seven Words of Christ from the Cross. 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466.*

★**"Good Friday Musical Meditation": Northside Community Church.** The church's bell choir, baritone Chris Grapentine, saxophonist Katherine Weintraub, organist Susan Goodson, pianist Kathryn Goodson, and guest musicians perform atmospheric chamber and vocal music, interspersed with reflections on poignant moments in human existence. The program includes some congregational singing. All invited. *7:30 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton Dr. Free. 662–6351.*

★**Latin Jazz Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Jonathan Ovalle directs this newly created music student ensemble in high-energy works rooted in Cuban and Brazilian traditions, including big band and small combo arrangements of works by Cal Tjader, Claire Fischer, Dizzy Gillespie, Paquito D'Rivera, Thelonious Monk, and Mark Levine. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

The Akropolis Reed Quintet: Kerrytown Concert House. This local neoclassical chamber ensemble presents **"pastNOW,"** a program juxtaposing the music of French Baroque composer Jean-Philippe Rameau with contemporary classical music. Program: Rameau's *Nouvelle Harpsichord Suite in G Minor,* Ton ter Doest's *CircusMuziek,* Asaf Peres' *Fun Fun Fun Fun,* David Heetderks' *Pitchblende,* and a new work by U-M student composer Garrett Schumann. With clarinetist Kari Dion, oboist Timothy Goklin, saxophonist Matt Landry, bass clarinetist Andrew Koeppe, and bassoonist Ryan Reynolds. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Black Comedy": U-M Residential College Players. *Apr. 6 & 7.* Michelle Weiss directs fellow RC students in Peter Shaffer's hilarious farce about an unscrupulous sculptor who tries to impress his fiancee's pompous father, a wealthy art buyer, by embellishing his apartment with furniture and objets d'art illicitly borrowed from an absent antique dealer next door. When the neighbor returns just as a blown fuse plunges his apartment into darkness, the sculptor's frantic attempts to return the items before light is restored are impeded by seated guests, unexpected visitors, lurking phone cords, and other snares. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Donation. 647–4354.*

★**"Derivatives of Identity": U-M Dance Department BFA Thesis Concert.** See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

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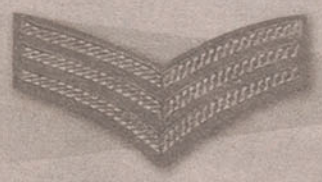

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"Cloud Nine": U-M Theatre Department. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Dead Man's Shoes": Performance Network Professional Season. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Swing Dance Party: Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *9 p.m.–midnight, Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (includes lessons; students with ID, $3). 417–9857.*

7 SATURDAY

★**"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30–80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *9 a.m., meet at either Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. 996–4986 (Apr. 7 ride), 994–6340 (Apr. 14), 426–5116 (Apr. 21), 775–1156 (Apr. 28).*

★**"Climate Crisis and Renewable Energy: What Is Being Done in the Local Region": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Talks by local government, university, and environmentalists TBA. Discussion follows. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★**"Stories for All Ages": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Sat. AADL staff read stories for listeners of all ages. *10–10:30 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Children's Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Sat.* An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents read stories related to the art on display. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. *11 a.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"Spring Eggstravaganza": Ann Arbor Jaycees.** Easter egg hunts for kids ages 12 & under accompanied by a parent. Also, face painting, photos with the Easter Bunny, games, dancing, and more. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., Southeast Park, 1351 E. Ellsworth. Free, but donations accepted for the American Cancer Society. a2jaycees.org, 531–9626.*

★**"Exploring the Pituitary Gland": U-M Natural History Museum.** *Apr. 7, 14, & 15.* Hands-on 20- to 30-minute demo of cutting-edge research into the genetics and development of the gland that regulates metabolism, growth, and other functions. *11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24–hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at the park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

★**"O-Meet": Southeastern Michigan Orienteering Club.** All invited to try this at-your-own-pace sport of reading maps and compasses to follow an outdoor course. Maps, some compasses available. *Noon–2 p.m., Waterloo Recreation Area headquarters (Apr. 7), 16345 McClure Rd., & Silver Lake (Apr. 29), Dexter Townhall Rd. (1 mi. north of North Territorial), Chelsea. Free. $10 (members, $5) for a map. michigano.org. 662–1000 (Apr. 7), 429–1057 (Apr. 29).*

"Manon": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of the finale of Massenet's opera adapted from Abbe Prevost's novel about a young provincial woman courted by 2 Parisian noblemen who is ruined by her taste for luxury. The broadcast is reprised on tape Apr. 25 & 26 (see listings). *Noon, Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $23 (seniors, $20; kids age 12 & under & students, $13.50) in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

★**11th Annual Monroe Street Fair.** A Hash Bash afterparty with live music by the Flint neopsychedelic funk-rock jam band **Glowb,** the Illinois reggae-rock trio **Fluid Impulse,** electronica musician **Luis Resto,** and the Royal Oak rock 'n' soul quintet **Shotgun Soul.** Arts & crafts and T-shirt vendors. *Noon–6 p.m., Monroe between Tappan & Oakland. Free. (586) 770–2824.*

★**"Spanish Storytimes": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Sat.* Native Spanish speakers tell stories and lead songs in Spanish for preschoolers through 5th graders. *1–1:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. *2–4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

"4th Annual Victors 5K": U-M Students for Diabetes Awareness. A 5–km chip-timed race through the Arb. Prizes. Also, information about diabetes. T-shirts available ($10). *2:30 p.m., Nichols Arboretum, 1610 Washington Hts. $20 in advance at sdaumich.wordpress.com; $25 day of race. sdaboard11@umich.edu.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. *Every Sat.* Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on Apr. 7 only, a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *Apr. 7 & 21.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

★**"My Soul to Take": In Good Company African American Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Tananarive Due's fantasy about immortal people who are the only ones able to save the world in the battle of good against evil. *4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

2nd Night Passover Seder: Temple Beth Emeth. Matzo ball soup, herb roasted chicken, vegan stuffed portabella mushrooms, asparagus, herb roasted potatoes, and Passover cookies. *6 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. $20 (kids, $15; kids age 2 & under, free if sharing with an adult). Preregistration required at templebethemeth.org or by phone. 665–4744.*

★**"Homeless Highlight Event": St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church.** Representatives from the Delonis Center, the VA Homeless Program, Avalon Housing, and Camp Take Notice describe their organizations and discuss volunteer opportunities. *7–8:30 p.m., St. Francis Parish Activities Center, 2250 E. Stadium. Free. 821–2121.*

★**"Singing the Past": U-M Modern Greek Program/Confucius Institute.** Ensembles of 4 Chinese musicians—3 vocalists TBA and accompanist Lydia Liu—and 4 Greek musicians—vocalist and bouzouki player Pavlos Vasileiou, guitarist Evangelos Nikolaidis, bouzouki player Yona Stamatis, and pianist Pantelis Polychronidis—perform a program of contemporary Chinese and Greek music, respectively, that draws on classical themes of each tradition. *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 936–6099.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Julie Levy-Weston calls contras to music by Mick Gavin & friends. All dances taught; no partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-sole shoes. *7–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $11 (members, $10; students, $5). 769–1052.*

★**"Next Fall": U-M Basement Arts.** See 5 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

★**"Just After the New Grass Moon: Night Hike and Campfire": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Hot drinks and snacks around a campfire. Followed by a hike to the wetland observation tower to look for the rising moon. *8–10 p.m., Independence Lake, 3200 Jennings, north off North Territorial. Free; $5 vehicle entry fee. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Apr. 7 & 21.* Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Room. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~umtango.*

Wendell Harrison's Detroit Swing Ensemble: Kerrytown Concert House Club Series. Award-winning veteran Detroit composer-clarinetist Harrison leads this ensemble in a repertoire of classic swing jazz of the 1920s and '30s, along with some

originals. Praised for his vocal presence, Harrison has garnered comparisons to Eddie Jefferson, Nat "King" Cole, and James Moody. With guitarists Vaughn Klugh and Niko Pitman and bassist Marion Hayden. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★**"Derivatives of Identity": U-M Dance Department BFA Thesis Concert.** See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Black Comedy": U-M Residential College Players. See 6 Friday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Dead Man's Shoes": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Cloud Nine": U-M Theatre Department. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. *Apr. 7 & 21.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5. (313) 808–0358.*

8 SUNDAY (EASTER)

★**"Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of this exhibit of 116 works by Fluxus, the 1960s avant-garde art collective that believed anything could be art and anyone could make art. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"Cloud Nine": U-M Theatre Department. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Dead Man's Shoes": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

Cheese Tasting: Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's cheesemaker Aubrey Thomason discusses and offers taste samples of Zingerman's cheeses and the process of making them. *4–5:30 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $20. 929–0500.*

★**"The End of Gay (and the Death of Heterosexuality)": Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Bert Archer's book that argues that we have transcended the binary nature of sexuality and are living in a more gender-fractured world. *4:30–7 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

9 MONDAY

★**"Digital Inequality and Its Implications for Internet Research": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program.** Talk by Northwestern University communications professor Eszter Hargittai. *4–5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 647–3766.*

★**"The Gray Ghost": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Civil War Tours (Pennsylvania) guide Steve Meserve discusses Confederate cavalry battalion commander John Singleton Mosby. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★**"Cuadros from Pamplona Alta: Textile Pictures by the Women of Peru": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Talk by retired U-M art professor Barbara Cervenka. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

★**"Shipwrecked!": Ann Arbor District Library.** The award-winning local children's company **Wild Swan Theater** presents local playwright Jeff Duncan's play set in 1893 about a Detroit cargo shipping family that sets sail on Lake Huron through Shipwreck Alley with a load of Christmas trees when they are battered by a fierce November storm. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Appropriate for kids in grades 3–8. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"The 'Dirt' on Soils and Fertilizers": Nicola's Books Master Gardener Talk Series.** Talk by members of the Master Gardener Alumni Association. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Youth Depression and Suicide": National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County.** Talk by American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Metro Detroit/Ann Arbor chapter chair Jeff Edwards. *7:30–9:30 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

★**Open Art Night: The Greenroom.** All invited to share their art in any media, including songs, poems, paintings, drawings, sculptures, monologues, sketches, jokes, short films, photographs, dances, and more. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open at 7:15 pm.), Dream Nightclub, 314 S. Fourth Ave. Free. Artist space limited; reservations required for artists by Apr. 2 via email to greenroomA2@gmail.com. 274–9094.*

"#JewofM: A Concert in 140 Characters or Less": U-M Kol HaKavod. This popular chorus, dubbed the "U-M's Jewish a cappella sensation," sings a program of Jewish and secular songs. *7:30 p.m., U-M Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Tickets $7 in advance by emailing ngstein@umich.edu; $10 at the door (students, $5). 769–0500.*

Ladies Book Club: Jewish Community Center. All women ages 20–39 invited to discuss ***Big Girl Small,*** Ann Arbor native Rachel DeWoskin's funny and moving novel about the adolescent trials of a very short 16-year-old girl who attends an elite Ann Arbor school. *8 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** See 2 Monday. 8 p.m.

10 TUESDAY

★**Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church.** *Every Tues. except Apr. 3.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:45–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. Free. 665–0105.*

★**Good Thyme Garden Club.** Ann Arbor Orchid Society cofounder Neal Foster discusses how to grow orchids and shows photos of rare and beautiful species. *10 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 944–9131.*

★**"Kafka in the Middle East": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Roundtable discussion with U-M and visiting scholars about the translation, appropriation, and staging of Kafka's work in countries such as Egypt, Turkey, and Israel. *1–3 p.m., Michigan League Kalamazoo Room. Free. 764–0350.*

★**"Secrets to Beautiful Roses: How to Prune Many Types of Roses": Huron Valley Rose Society.** Screening of a video. Followed by Q&A and discussion. Refreshments. *2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. 277–0112.*

★**"Green-Eyed Thieves": U-M Author's Forum.** University of Capetown English professor **Imraan Coovadia** and U-M art history and philosophy professor **Daniel Herwitz** discuss Coovadia's comic novel chronicling the fortunes of a family of crooks. Signing. *5:30–7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Library, U-M Diag. Free. 615–5783.*

U-M Softball vs. WMU. The April schedule also includes a doubleheader vs. **MSU** (Apr. 15, 1 p.m.), and a 3–game series (with a doubleheader on Sat). vs. **Illinois** (Apr. 28, 4 p.m., & Apr. 29, 2 p.m.). *6 p.m., Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. $4 (youths age 12 & under, $2; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

"Falcon Flight": Leslie Science & Nature Center. All invited to watch the LSNC peregrine falcon fly overhead and around the field. *7–8 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $25. Space limited; preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★**"CSI: What Went Wrong Inside the Hive": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** A hands-on investigation of a hive that didn't make it through the winter. Also, a discussion on how to introduce packaged bees to a hive. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. rimendel@sbcglobal.net, 660–8621.*

★**Health Talks: People's Food Co-op.** *Apr. 10 & 26.* Talks by local experts. *Apr. 10:* Raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston on **"Simple 'n' Healthy Raw Vegan Cuisine."** *Apr. 26:* Holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt on **"Herbal First Aid."** *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op, at peoplesfood.coop, or by phone. 994–4589.*

★**"Star Maker": Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss British philosopher Olaf Stapledon's classic 1937 sci-fi novel that spans billions of years and chronicles a history of life in the universe. *7–9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Peter Madcat Ruth: Ann Arbor District Library.** Rare solo performance by this local world-renowned harmonica wiz. As versatile and riveting a harmonica virtuoso as you'll ever hear, Madcat's repertoire blends folk, blues, jazz, and rock 'n' roll. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**U-M Opera Workshop.** *Apr. 10–12 (different programs).* Today: U-M music professor Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in Act II of Mozart's *Cosi Fan Tutte. 7 p.m., U-M School of Music McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–2538.*

★**"The End of Country": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss Seamus McGraw's account of what happens to a Pennsylvania town when big energy companies arrive to drill for gas. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *April 10 & 17.* Annual member projected image (Apr. 10) and print (Apr. 17) competitions. *7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium, 1701 Newport. Free ($25 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.*

★**"Centennial Titanic": Concordia University.** Concordia University organizational leadership professor Timothy Pies gives a multimedia presentation on the facts and fantasies surrounding the sinking of the Titanic. *7:30 p.m., Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

★**"Low-Brass Fest": EMU Music Department.** Matthew Tropman and Donald Babcock conduct their euphonium, trombone, and tuba students in a program of music for low-brass instruments. *8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Jazz Lab Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Dennis Wilson conducts music students in a program TBA. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"In Anticipation": U-M School of Music.** Eugene Rogers and Joseph Baldwin conduct the **University Choir** in Handel's "Zadok the Priest," Dove's "The Passing of the Year," Mendelssohn's *Sechs Lieder im Freien zu Springen,* and Venetian madrigals by Giovanni Gabrieli, Andrea Gabrieli, and Giovanni Domenico da Nola. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Musique Francaise": Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon International Professional Music Fraternity.** Mu Phi Epsilon members and friends perform choral, vocal, and instrumental works by French composers, including Boismortier, Clereau, Fauré, Franck, Ibert, Poulenc, Rameau, Rouget de L'Isle, and Rydin. Performers include the **Saline Flute Song** flute choir, harpist **Laurel Federbush,** Westminster Presbyterian organist **Shawn McDonald,** the **Mu Phi Epsilon Chamber Choir,** and the **Mu Phi Chamber Orchestra.** Followed by a reception. Refreshments. *8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free will offering. 665–2008.*

11 WEDNESDAY

"Technologies in Future Health Care": Ann Arbor City Club. Talk by U-M human genetics professor David T. Burke. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $20. Reservations required by Apr. 6. 662–3279.*

★**"Visions of Tokyo in Japanese Contemporary Art": U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** Talk by Paris Institute of Political Studies (Paris) sociology professor Adrian Favell. *4–5 p.m., 2609 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–4301.*

★**"Woodland Wildflower Walk": Wild Ones.** All invited to join club members on a walk to look for bloodroot, false rue anemone, trout lily, and other wildflowers. *6–7:30 p.m., Dexter-Huron Metropark, 6535 Huron River Dr. (about ½ mile east of Mast Rd.), Dexter. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 604–4674.*

★**U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Politecnico di Torino (Italy) history of architecture professor Francesca Filippi discusses **royal Thai architecture.** *6–7:30 p.m., 2104 U-M A+A Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 764–0352.*

★**"Evolution, Poverty, and Public Health": U-M Natural History Museum Science Cafe.** Discussion led by U-M public health professor Richard Lichtenstein and other U-M faculty TBA. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by free hors d'oeuvres. *6–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a

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talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. *7–9:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Handling Heartburn & Digestive Problems": Nutritional Healing Center.** Talk by local chiropractor Darren Schmidt. *7 p.m., NHC, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

★**"Health Care Reform: Its Content and Challenges": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation health policy consultant Josh Fangmeier. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** *Apr. 11 & 25.* All invited to read their poetry or short stories. Also, a 1-hour writing workshop after the open mike on Apr. 25. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Organ/Harpsichord Studio: EMU Music Department.** Recital by EMU music students. *7 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**U-M Opera Workshop.** See 10 Tuesday. Today: U-M music professor Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione di Poppea.* 7 p.m.

★**"Danceology": WCC Performing Arts Department.** Advanced dance students perform their original choreography. *7 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 677–5090.*

"She Stoops to Conquer": University Musical Society National Theatre Live. Tape-delayed live broadcast of the **National Theatre (London)** production of Oliver Goldsmith's enduringly popular 18th-century farce, a satire of the sentimental comedies of his day. The play's heroine, the wealthy Kate Hardcastle, conceals her identity after being mistaken for a barmaid by a shy prospective fiancé, Charles Marlow, who is bolder with unrefined women. "Goldsmith's tightly plotted play seems wonderfully youthful in this fizzy production" directed by Jamie Lloyd, writes an *Evening Standard* reviewer. *7 p.m. Michigan Theater. Tickets $22 (Michigan Theater & UMS members, $18; students, $12) in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Tilian Farm Development Center": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Andrea Ridgard and Jeff McCabe discuss this project to promote new farm development to increase diversified production for local markets. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 769–1052.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Henry Ford Community College U.S. history professor Hal Friedman leads a discussion of John Grenier's ***The First Way of War: American War Making on the Frontier, 1607–1814.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

The Moth Michigan GrandSLAM: Michigan Radio. All-star storytelling showdown featuring the last 5 winners of both the Ann Arbor and the Detroit Storyslams, the monthly open mike storytelling competitions (see 17 Tuesday) sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), The Ark, 316 S. Main. $16 in advance at themoth.org and at the door.*

★**Orpheus Singers: U-M School of Music.** Grad students conduct this music student choir in Handel's "Anthem for the Funeral of Queen Caroline," Bach's Cantata 21, and works by Whitacre and Guillaume. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture about the program with one of the conductors, Beverly Shangkuan. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Crossing Darkness": U-M New Music Ensemble.** This music student ensemble, formerly called the Contemporary Directions Ensemble, performs Poul Ruders' frightening *Nightshade,* Mason Bates's *From Amber Frozen,* Amy Beth Kirsten's whimsical *Drink Me,* Mark-Anthony Turnage's violent *Dark Crossing,* and Luciano Berio's Sequenza no. 8 for Solo Violin. This concert is also part of a 3-year performance cycle of Berio's sequenzas, a collection of virtuosic solo works. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wed. except Apr. 4.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

jazz

Charles Lloyd

Wedded to the tenor sax

Charles Lloyd is a jazz musician who revels in spirituality and in sound. When he first came to public attention in 1960 as a member of the popular Chico Hamilton Quintet, like many saxophonists of the time he was heavily influenced by the work of John Coltrane. Over the next few years he weaned himself off all direct influences and developed his own voice on the tenor saxophone and flute. His style, while harmonically sophisticated, encompassed a rich but plaintive sound that seems an extension of the human voice, bound to a seemingly simple melodic sensibility. His playing was exuberant but with hints of transcendence and melancholy that appealed to hardcore jazz lovers as well as more causal listeners. In 1966 he released *Forest Flower,* from a performance at the Monterey Jazz Festival, and it became one of the best-selling jazz LPs ever and made Lloyd a star. As a result, his quartet, which featured Keith Jarrett on piano, was able to open for some of the leading rock acts of the day and tour all over the world, at fees rarely available to jazz musicians. But the creator of such albums as *The Flowering* and *The Journey Within* was not one to be swayed by such success. For a decade, he withdrew from performance to pursue spiritual quests on the California coast.

Lloyd came back leading a new quartet that included the teenage French pianist Michel Petrucciani. He has continued to collaborate with young pianists, including Bobo Stenson, Geri Allen, and most recently, Jason Moran. He also developed his far-ranging interests in other musical traditions, collaborating with, among others, Indian tabla drum player Zakir Hussain and Greek singer Maria Farantouri. On occasion he also expanded his repertoire of instruments, performing on alto saxophone, the *tarogato* (a Hungarian instrument that resembles a wooden soprano saxophone), alto and bass flutes, and the Tibetan oboe. But no matter how far he strays, Lloyd is wedded to the tenor sax; this is where his sound lies. Over the years it has been burnished and deepened, and has grown richer and more expressive. But if you go back and listen to his late-sixties albums, you will immediately recognize the same highly individual voice: full-bodied, but laced with a touch of introspection and sadness. The years trace a consistent musical development, but his stylistic core remains true to itself.

On April 14 Lloyd brings his New Quartet to Hill Auditorium. His sidemen, pianist Moran, bassist Reuben Rogers, and drummer Eric Harland—none of whom were born when *Forest Flower* was recorded—have been with him for some years now and can develop complex musical interactions and bend compositions in a manner that would be impossible in a less artistically integrated group. Moran, who follows in a long line of great Lloyd pianists, is particularly effective in this context, sharing Lloyd's lyrical expressiveness.

—Piotr Michalowski

12 THURSDAY

★**Robot Competition State Championship: FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology).** *Apr. 12–14.* Teams from 64 high schools bring their homemade robots, ranging from gangly Rube Goldberg contraptions to sleek predatory machines, to battle one another in contests culminating with the exciting finals on Saturday (2–5 p.m.). *3:30–7:30 p.m. (Apr. 12), 9 a.m.–6:30 p.m. (Apr. 13 & 14), EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Free. firstinmichigan.org.*

★**Earth Day Celebration: WCC.** Information booths and demonstrations by environmentalists, recycling enthusiasts, and sustainability experts. Also, a live raptor presentation by Leslie Science & Nature Center (11 a.m.–noon). *10 a.m.–2 p.m., WCC Student Center (2nd floor), 4800 E. Huron River. Dr. Free. 973–3487.*

Ikebana International Chapter 183. All invited to join a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $15 (members, $8) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

★**"Wizards of Word-Learning: Linguistic and Conceptual Foundations to Infants' Stunning Success": U-M Theme Semester on Language.** Talk by Northwestern University cognitive psychology professor Sandra Waxman. *4–5:30 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery (Room 100), enter from the Diag. Free. 764–0400.*

"Magic and Comedy Family Night": Carpenter Elementary School PTO. Family-oriented performance by **Alan Smola,** a popular young local magician whose shows blend magic and comedy. Food concessions. *5:30 & 7:30 p.m., Carpenter School, 4250 Central (off Carpenter south of Washtenaw). Tickets $6 (family, $15) at the door. magic@alittleattitude.net, 971-3185.*

"Hop Heads": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen of the extremely hoppy beers. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance, $30 (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★**"You Want How Much for That Rock?": Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Banquet.** Talk by club member Chris Stefano, a U-M geology department curator. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a rock auction and a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass). *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

★**"Community": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion on past, present, and future local sustainability concepts and efforts with 4 city staff members—planning manager Wendy Rampson,

community development director Mary Jo Callan, deputy police chief John Seto, and recreation facilities supervisor Cheryl Saam—along with Ann Arbor Parks Advisory Commission chair Julie Grand, U-M natural resources professor Ray De Young, and Ann Arbor SPARK president Paul Krutko. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Kitty Cornered: How Frannie and Five Other Incorrigible Cats Seized Control of Our House and Made It Their Own": Nicola's Books.** Lowell (MI) writer **Bob Tarte,** author of the acclaimed *Enslaved by Ducks,* discusses his new memoir about the ways his cats have shaped his family's lives, from their dining habits to their sleeping arrangements. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"UMMA After Hours": UMMA.** The museum is open late tonight, with curators discussing the current temporary exhibits. Also, live Gypsy jazz by **Carl Cafagna & Friends.** Light refreshments. *7–11 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"Manic Pixie Dream Girl": U-M Theatre Department.** *Apr. 12–15.* U-M theater professor John Neville-Andrews directs U-M student Emma Jeszke's new play, a drama about a young woman who's both drawn to and wary about modeling herself after the stock film character. *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**U-M Opera Workshop.** See 10 Tuesday. Today: U-M music professor Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in Act II of Mozart's *Cosi Fan Tutte.* 7 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

Ann Arbor Ski Club. All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboard outings and other social activities. Followed by an **"Aloha Party"** with dancing to music spun by a DJ. Must be 21 or older. *7:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. $5. 786–2237.*

Zakir Hussain & Masters of Percussion: University Musical Society. Widely regarded as one of the world's best tabla players, Hussain is a Grammy-winning Indian musician known for his masterful improvisational dexterity who also possesses what a *New York Times* reviewer calls "the uncommon ability to make his percussion instruments sing." Tonight he is joined by the Masters of Percussion, an ensemble that's an outgrowth of Hussain's memorable tours with his father, the legendary Ustad Alla Rakha, for a program of North Indian songs that blur the line between traditional and contemporary forms and folk and classical rhythms. With tabla and kanjira (frame drum) player Fazal Qureshi, bansuri (bamboo flute) player Rakesh Chaurasia, sarangi (a bowed string instrument) player Dilshad Khan, dholak (hand drum) player Navin Sharma, doyra (frame drum) player Abbos Kosimov, and the Meitei Pung Cholom Performing Troupe, one of India's premier dance troupes that combines traditional folk and classical Manipuri dance styles with drumming and martial arts. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$48 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Gianni Schicchi": U-M Opera Studio.** *Apr. 12 & 13.* Robert Swedberg directs U-M opera students in Puccini's only comic opera, the story of a scoundrel who outfoxes the family that hired him to help them reclaim an inheritance a recently deceased relative bequeathed to a monastery. It is best known for "O mio babbino caro," one of the most beautiful arias in all opera. Also, a one-act version of Rossini's *Cenerentola (Cinderella).* Sung in Italian with English supertitles. *7:30 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–2538.*

"Chicago": U-M Musical Theatre Department. *Apr. 12–15.* U-M dance professor Linda Goodrich directs musical theater students in this long-running 1975 vaudeville-style musical, a satire of the cult of celebrity set in the Roaring 20s. After washed-up chorus girl Roxie Hart offs her squeeze and wangles her husband into taking the rap, he reneges and tosses Roxie in jail, where she meets fellow vaudevillian and prison prima donna Velma. Roxie draws the attention of Velma's hotshot lawyer, who puffs up Roxie's crime into tabloid fame, angering Velma. A sensational trial ensues. Songs include "All That Jazz," "Razzle Dazzle," and "My Own Best Friend." *7:30 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $20 & $26 (students, $9) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**Baroque Chamber Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Aaron Berofsky and Edward Parmentier direct this music student ensemble in works by Handel, Geminiani, and others. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Judah Friedlander: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Veteran stand-up comic, best known for his role as the childish TV writer Frank Rossitano on *30 Rock.* His act is built around his schoolyard pose as an all-purpose "world champion," and he spends much of his act parrying with and trying to one-up members of his audience. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $18 reserved seating in advance, $20 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

13 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *Apr. 13 & 27.* A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 accompanied by a caregiver. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *10–11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

★**U-M History of Art Department Lecture Series.** *Apr. 13 & 20.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. *Apr. 13:* **"Problems in American Realism: Art, Life, and Time in a Painting by William Sidney Mount."** U-M art history professor Rebecca Zurier discusses Mount's 1836 painting *Farmers Nooning. Apr. 20:* **"Travels in Olmec Time."** Syracuse University art history professor Luis Castañeda discusses the reception of colossal Olmec head sculptures in the U.S. and Mexico in the 1960s. *4 p.m., 180 Tappan Hall, 855 South University. Free. 764–5400.*

★**"The Persistence of the Elephants": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** In response to *The Retreat of the Elephants*—Mark Elvin's book about the reduced population of elephants in China—U-M history professor emeritus Thomas Trautmann discusses the relative persistence of elephant populations in India. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0443.*

★**Student Brass Chamber Ensembles: U-M School of Music.** Program TBA. *5 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"The Holographic Universe": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Reading Circle.** All invited to discuss Michael Talbot's book exploring the connections between quantum physics, neurophysiology, mystical experiences, and the paranormal. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**National Poetry Month Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** With performances by National Poetry Slam champion **Roger Bonair-Agard,** a NYC resident whose poems explore the intersection between his 20–plus years as an immigrant in America and the Trinidad from which he came, and award-winning local poet and fiction writer **Jeff Kass,** a Pioneer High English teacher. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Anne Waldman: One Pause Poetry.** Poetry reading by this celebrated post-Beat poet and cofounder (with Allen Ginsberg) of the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics. She is best known for her series of dazzling chant poems collected in *Fast Speaking Woman* and for her commitment to the development of both oral poetry and an audience for it. Her poems are full of passion and imaginative surprise, but unlike most oral poetry, they are also driven forward by a playfulness that manifests itself as an exuberance of formal and linguistic invention. Signing & reception. Waldman also gives an **interview** with One Pause director Sarah Messer on Apr. 14 (10:30 a.m.). *7 p.m., METAL, 220 Felch. Free. 604–0090.*

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. *Apr. 13–15 & 19–21.* EMU theater professor Phil Simmons directs EMU students in this popular Frank Loesser musical based on Damon Runyan's stories and characters. Set in New York City in the 1930s, the action focuses on 2 contrasting romances, one a long-running liaison between a nightclub singer and a professional gambler and the other an unlikely affair between a high roller and a Salvation Army sister. The lively score includes such classics as "Luck Be a Lady," "A Bushel and a Peck," "If I Were a Bell," and "Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat." *7 p.m., EMU Quirk Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell at Jarvis), Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students, $12) in advance and at the door. 487–2282.*

★**U-M Opera Workshop.** See 10 Tuesday. Today: U-M music professor Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione di Poppea.* 7 p.m.

★**"Manic Pixie Dream Girl": U-M Theatre Department.** See 12 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meeting-*

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house, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.

★**Older Lesbians Organizing.** All lesbians invited to join a discussion of **hobbies and interests.** *7:30 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.*

★**"The Betrayal" and "Old Times": U-M Residential College Play Production Seminar.** RC students present 2 Harold Pinter dramas about love and jealousy. *The Betrayal* is about a woman's complicated affair with her husband's best friend, and *Old Times* is about the triangular relationships among a husband, his wife, and her old college roommate. Under the veneer of polite conversation, there emerges between the husband and the roommate a desperate competition for preeminence in the life of the woman they both love. *7:30 p.m., RC Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4359.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Balkan, Scandinavian, and European dances to live music by Veselba. *8–11 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $10 (students, $5). 995–0011.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. With callers TBA and live music by Steve Schneider, Susie Lorand, and Brad Battey. For experienced English country dancers. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.*

★**Student Songwriter Showcase: The Ark.** In-the-round performances by 3 U-M student singer-songwriters competing for an opening performance at the Ark. *8 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 761–1451.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music student ensemble in Samuel Barber's dramatic *Second Essay,* Gershwin's *An American in Paris,* Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun,* and Ravel's ultimate orchestral showpiece *Bolero.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture about the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Suzzy Roche: Green Wood Coffee House (First United Methodist Church). Witty, intimate pop-folk originals, alternately wry and whimsical, by this former member of the Roche Sisters, who has released 2 solo CDs on the Red House label. Her recent projects include a novel and a children's book, both due out in 2013. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Vincent Chandler's Septet: Canterbury House. Jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Chandler, a member of the Roy Hargrove Big Band. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron St. $10 (students, $5). 764–3162.*

Cheikh Lô: University Musical Society. One of Africa's most distinctive singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists, this Senegalese musician is recognized for his unique appearance—long dreadlocks and colorful patchwork clothes—and his signature sound, a fusion of Western and Central African influences with funk, Cuban, and flamenco. His music is based on *mbalax,* Senegal's intricate dance music style, and has drawn comparisons to fellow Senegalese superstar Youssou N'Dour, who produced two of his early albums. A skilled guitarist and drummer, Lô draws the most praise for his husky, sensual voice. With conga and tama (talking drum) player Samba N'Dokh M'Baye, tall-guitar player Cheikh Tidiane, bassist Washington Julio Rosas, sabar (Senegalese drum) player Khadim M'Baye, horn player Wilfrid Zinsou, and drummer Badou N'Diaye. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $18–$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Gretchen Parlato: Kerrytown Concert House Club Series. This renowned L.A.-based jazz vocalist wins praise for her sultry, dreamlike voice, rhythmically nimble phrasing, and an understated approach that often has her singing wordless vocals and moans at the level of a whisper. "Seventy-five years ago, nobody sang like Billie Holiday—today, nobody sings like Gretchen Parlato," writes an *All About Jazz* reviewer. Parlato made many year-end "best of" lists for *The Lost and Found,* her 2011 album noted for its range of influences, including pop, funk, and Brazilian music. Cash bar available. *8 & 9:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Machinal": U-M Rude Mechanicals. *Apr. 13–15.* This U-M student troupe performs Sophie Treadwell's drama about a young woman who follows the dictates of society until she's driven to murder her husband. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $5 (students, $3). 763–3333.*

★**"Gianni Schicchi": U-M Opera Studio.** See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor Docu Fest. Screening of a different documentary film every Mon. FREE. 929–9979. Café Ambrosia, 326 Maynard, 7 p.m.

Apr. 2: **"Votergate"** (Olle Schell, 2004). Documentary investigating problems with current American voting systems and election procedures.

Apr. 9: **"The Economics of Happiness"** (Helena Norberg-Hodge, Steven Gorelick & John Page, 2011). Documentary about global movements toward localization.

Apr. 16: **"Ungrip"** (Ben Stewart, 2011). Documentary about a man who painstakingly arranges to live his life free of government control and of reliance upon the public energy and food supply.

Apr. 23: **"A Noble Lie: Oklahoma City 1995"** (James Lane, 2011). Documentary about the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Apr. 30: **"The Corporation"** (Jennifer Abbott & Mark Achbar, 2003). Entertaining, provocative documentary about the inner workings, curious history, controversial impacts, and possible futures of modern global corporate conglomerates.

50th Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival. *Mar. 27–Apr. 1. Schedule is tentative; updated schedule available at aafilmfest.org.* The oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in North America features 6 days of film screenings, panel discussions, and parties that culminate in screenings of the award-winning films on Apr. 1. Tickets: $95 for the entire festival & $55 for weekend passes in advance at aafilmfest.org/store/passes, and $10 (students, seniors, & members, $7; midnight movies, $6) per evening show at the door. 995–5356. Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), various times.

Apr. 1: **"What the Hell Was That?"** Screening and discussion of several challenging experimental short films from this year's festival. FREE, 11 a.m. **"Films in Competition."** The competition showcases new experimental and independent 16-mm, 35-mm, and digital films and videos in a wide range of genres and of generally high quality. Past contributors have included Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and Brian De Palma. 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. **"This Is Not a Film"** (Jafar Panahi, 2010). Day-in-the-life documentary about the Iranian director's experience of being under house arrest in Tehran. The film was smuggled from Iran to Cannes in a flash drive hidden inside a birthday cake. Persian, subtitles. FREE. UMMA (525 S. State), 1 p.m. **Feature length film** from the competition TBA. 1 p.m. **"In Praise of Shadows: Japanese Avant-Garde Films of the 1990s & 2000s."** Presented by curator Tomonari Nishikawa. 1:30 p.m. **"Two Years at Sea"** (Ben Rivers, 2011). A nearly wordless portrait of a man who lives alone in a vast forest in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. Part of the AAFF competition. 3 p.m. **"Quick Billy"** (Bruce Baillie, 1970). Semi-autobiographical experimental film that features Baillie as an Old West gunslinger. 3:30 p.m. **"Awarded Films Program."** Screening of some of the festival competition winners. 6 & 8 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Apr. 21: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice "Economic Root Causes Movie Series." Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by refreshments. FREE. 663–1870. First United Methodist Church Wesley Foundation Lounge, 602 E. Huron, 7 p.m.

Apr. 26: **"AbUSed: The Postville Raid"** (Luis Argueta, 2010). Documentary about the brutal 2008 federal immigration raid in Postville, Iowa.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Apr. 27: **"Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter...and Spring"** (Kim Ki-duk, 2003). Quiet, contemplative drama, set in a floating monastery in a pristine mountain lake, about the different

stages in the life of a Buddhist monk. Korean, subtitles. Followed by discussion.

Jewish Film Festival. Annual festival of documentary and feature films on Jewish themes. Tickets $10 (festival pass, $75). 971–0990. Michigan Theater, various times.

Apr. 29: **"An Article of Hope"** (Daniel Cohen, 2010). Documentary about Ilan Ramon, Israel's 1st and only astronaut. Hebrew & English, subtitles. Followed by ***Cohen on the Bridge: Rescue at Entebbe*** (Andrew Wainrib, 2012), an animated short about the 1976 Operation Entebbe counter-terrorist hostage rescue. 2 p.m. **"Reuniting the Rubins"** (Yoav Factor, 2010). Comic drama about an uptight lawyer who's emotionally blackmailed by his ailing mother into reuniting with his estranged children, in whom he recognizes nothing of himself: a ruthless control freak, a hard-nosed capitalist, an argumentative ecowarrior, an otherworldly Buddhist monk, and a born-again rabbi. 8 p.m.

Apr. 30: **"The Dybbuk"** (Michael Waszynsky, 1937). Classic film adaptation of Sholom Anski's folktale about a bride possessed by a malicious spirit. Yiddish, subtitles. 1:30 p.m. **"Love, Etc."** (Jill Andresevic, 2010). Witty, poignant, humorous documentary about the forms and stages of human love, depicted through 5 real stories traced over the course of one year in NYC. 5 p.m. **"My Australia"** (Ami Drozd, 2011). Tender, humorous drama about a young boy and his brother, raised Catholic in a poor 1960s Polish neighborhood with a strong anti-Semitic bent, who thinks his mother, a Holocaust survivor, is taking the family to Australia, the land of his fantasies, as the family boards a ship to Israel. Polish & Hebrew, subtitles. 8 p.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. This schedule also includes some State Theater films that have been announced in advance. For an updated schedule, see michtheater.org/state. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; films before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Apr. 2: **"Tom Dowd & the Language of Music"** (Mark Moorman, 2003). Documentary about the innovative Atlantic Records recording engineer and producer who worked with everyone from John Coltrane and Ray Charles to Aretha Franklin to the Allman Brothers. 7 p.m.

Apr. 2–5: **"The Forgiveness of Blood"** (Joshua Marston, 2011). Drama about 2 Albanian siblings who are forced to leave high school and take over the family business when their father's actions result in a feud between their family and a neighbor's. Albanian, subtitles.

Apr. 2–5: **"Crazy Horse"** (Frederick Wiseman, 2011). Cinéma vérité documentary about the famous Paris strip club. French, subtitles.

Apr. 4: **"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows, Part 1 & Part 2"** (David Yates, 2010 & 2011). 2-part film adaptation of J.K. Rowling's popular fantasy novel. Part 2 is shown in 3-D. Between the screenings of the 2 films, a music and wellness program presented by Take Back the Campus, a nonprofit devoted to promoting healthy communication. FREE. 5 p.m.

Apr. 5: **"M-agination Film Festival."** Screenings of works written, directed, filmed, and edited by U-M students. FREE. 8 p.m.

Apr. 6 & other dates TBA: **"Salmon Fishing in the Yemen"** (Lasse Hallström, 2011). A fisheries expert is hired to help a sheik realize his vision of bringing the sport of fly-fishing to the desert. Stars Ewan McGregor & Emily Blunt.

Apr. 6–10 & 12: **"Salt of Life"** (Gianni Di Gregorio, 2011). A retiree who feels invisible to those around him tries to find a mistress. Italian, subtitles.

Apr. 9: **"Louder than Love: The Grande Ballroom Story"** (Karl Rausch, 2011). Documentary about the faded 1930s dance hall that became the epicenter of the Detroit rock scene in the late 60s. 7 p.m.

Apr. 5: **"Best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival"** (Various directors, 2011). The best mountain and outdoor adventure films from the 2011 edition of the famous 3-day festival held every November in Banff, Alberta. Sponsored by U-M Recreational Sports Outdoor Adventures. Tickets $15 (students, $10) in advance at Bivouac, MRock (IMSB, 606 E. Hoover), U-M Outdoor Adventures (336 Hill), the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and at other TicketMaster outlets, and at the door. 764–3967, 763–TKTS. 7 p.m.

Apr. 16: **"Blank City"** (Celine Danhier, 2010). Documentary about the disparate crew of renegade filmmakers who emerged from the decaying NYC of the 70s and early 80s. With Jim Jarmusch, John Waters, Steve Buscemi, Debbie Hary, Fab 5 Freddy, and more. 7 p.m.

Apr. 16–18: **"Norwegian Wood"** (Anh Dung Tran, 2010). A man recalls his youth in the 1960s, when his friend committed suicide and he became close to his friend's girlfriend. Based on Haruki Murakami's novel. Japanese, subtitles.

Apr. 18: **U-M Senior Thesis Film Showcase.** Screenings of films by 5 U-M screen arts & cultures majors. FREE. 6 p.m.

Apr. 19: **"Children Full of Life"** (Noboru Kaetsu, 2003). Documentary about a 4th-grade teacher who gives his students lessons on teamwork, community, the importance of openness, how to cope, and the harm caused by bullying. 7 p.m.

Apr. 20: **"The Five-Year Engagement"** (Nicholas Stoller, 2012). A pre-release screening of this rom com, filmed in Ann Arbor, that stars Jason Segel and Emily Blunt as an engaged couple who have a long and bumpy trip to the altar. Followed by a Q&A session with director **Nicholas Stoller** and producer **Rodney Rothman.** Also, a VIP reception ($100). Tickets $20 in advance at brownpapertickets.com. 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 22: **"Charlotte's Web"** (Gary Winick, 2006). Live action adaptation of the beloved E.B. White children's classic. Dakota Fanning. Kids 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

Apr. 22–25: **"Jiro Dreams of Sushi"** (David Gelb, 2011). Documentary about an 85-year-old sushi master who runs a business in the basement of a Tokyo office building. Japanese, subtitles.

Apr. 23: **"Monterey Pop"** (D.A. Pennebaker, 1968). Documentary of the legendary 1967 Monterey Pop Festival highlighted by the first major American performances by Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Otis Redding, and the Who. 7 p.m.

Apr. 27 & other dates TBA: **"The Kid with a Bike"** (Jean-Pierre Dardenne & Luc Dardenne, 2011). Abandoned by his father, a young boy is left in a state-run orphanage until the town hairdresser agrees to foster him on the weekends. French, subtitles.

Apr. 27 & other dates TBA: **"We Need to Talk about Kevin"** (Lynne Ramsay, 2011). Thriller that stars Tilda Swinton as a mother who struggles to love her strange child as his actions become increasingly more vicious.

Apr. 30: **"Jazz on a Summer's Day"** (Bert Stern, 1959). Documentary about the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival featuring performances by Louis Armstrong, Thelonious Monk, Dinah Washington, Mahalia Jackson, Chuck Berry, & more. 7 p.m.

State Theater Midnight Movies. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org/state.php or call 761–8667. Tickets $6. Midnight.

Apr. 21: **"Ghostbusters"** (Ivan Reitman, 1984). Classic comedy about a team of peppy ghost exorcists. Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd.

Apr. 28: **"Scott Pilgrim vs. The World"** (Edgar Wright, 2010). Action-comedy-fantasy about a guy who must defeat his new girlfriend's 7 evil exes to win her heart.

Temple Beth Emeth "Movie Wednesday." FREE. 665–4744. 2309 Packard, 1 p.m. Followed by discussion. Snacks.

Apr. 18: **"Hello Goodbye"** (Graham Guit, 2008). Romantic comedy about a middle-class Parisian couple who decide to embrace their Jewish heritage and move to Tel Aviv. Gerard Depardieu, Fanny Ardant. French, subtitles.

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Chinese Documentary Film Series. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A (entrance at the Fishbowl on the east side of the bldg.), 7:10 p.m. Mandarin, subtitles.

Apr. 7: **"Timber Gang"** (Yu Guangyi, 2006). Documentary about a grueling winter among loggers employing traditional practices in Northeast China.

U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies Thai Film Series. FREE. 764–0352. 1022 Thayer Bldg. (202 S. Thayer), 3 p.m.

Apr. 8: **"The Scent of Green Papaya"** (Tran Anh Hung, 1994). Drama about a young servant who has an affair with her employer. Vietnamese, subtitles.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library. FREE. 615–5783, 763–4928. Library gallery, Room 100 (enter from the Diag), 5 p.m.

Apr. 3: **"Grown in Detroit"** (Mascha and Manfred Poppenk, 2010). Award-winning documentary about the Catherine Ferguson Academy, a Detroit school that educates pregnant teens and young mothers about nutrition and helps them grow their own food. Followed by a panel discussion with U-M faculty members and the film's directors.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 4 p.m.–midnight.

Apr. 14: **"Animania."** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from Japanese TV series.

U-M Latina/o Studies Program. FREE. 763–1460. Rackham Amphitheater, 6 p.m.

Apr. 10: **"An Evening with Alex Rivera."** Screening of acclaimed filmmaker Rivera's 2008 film ***Sleep Dealer,*** a futuristic dystopian fantasy about a militarized world run by a global digital network and virtual labor in which 3 strangers risk their lives to connect with each other. Spanish & English, subtitles. Followed by a Q&A with Rivera.

U-M School of Public Health Film Series. FREE. 764–5425. SPH II Auditorium (1415 Washington Hts.), 5 p.m.

Apr. 9: **"Supersize Me"** (Morgan Spurlock, 2003). Award-winning documentary about obesity in America in which director Spurlock eats only at McDonald's for a month as he travels across the country interviewing food experts. One critic calls the film "The *Bowling for Columbine* of fast food."

U-M Screen Arts & Cultures. FREE. 763–4087. Natural Science Auditorium. 6 p.m.–midnight.

April 21 & 22 (different programs): **"Lightworks Festival."** A smorgasbord of short films in various genres that are the culminating term projects for U-M film students.

U-M Smith-Ka-Teers. FREE. Smitheeawards.com. 1800 Chemistry, 930 North University. 7 p.m.–midnight.

Apr. 14: **21st Annual Smithee Awards.** This celebration of bad films features screenings of 5 clips of commercial feature films in each of 19 categories, including "Most Ludicrous Premise," "Worst Science," "Cutting Butter with a Chainsaw," "Let's Up the Rating to R," "Alas, Poor Yorick," "Inane Dialogue," "Deus ex Machina," and more. Films typically sampled include the likes of *Seedpeople, Leech Woman, Nailgun Massacre, The Clones of Bruce Lee,* and *Narcotic Justice.* Audience members vote on the "winners." Mature audiences.

U-M Substance Abuse Research Center. FREE. 615–2910. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 7–10 p.m.

Apr. 27: **"Reefer Madness"** (Louis Gasnier, 1936). Anti-marijuana propaganda film that survives as a campy cult favorite. The screening is introduced by U-M School of Public Health program officer Don Vereen.

U-M Theme Semester on Language. FREE. 647–0759. North Quad Space 2435, 105 S. State, 7 p.m.

Apr. 4: **"Speaking in Tongues: Four Kids, Four Languages, One City, One World."** Documentary about kids attending foreign language immersion programs in the U.S.

U-M Women Visualizing Africa Film Series. FREE. 764–5344. 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State. 4 p.m.

Apr. 10: **"Calypso at Dirty Jim's"** (Pascale Obolo, 2010). Documentary about the role of calypso storyteller-musicians in Trinidadian culture. Preceded by ***La Femme Invisible,*** Obolo's 6-minute 2009 short about how African women are invisible in Paris. French, subtitles.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 9 p.m.

Apr. 11: **"Jesus Christ Superstar"** (Norman Jewison, 1973). Film adaptation of the Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber rock opera based on the last week in the life of Jesus.

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"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Chicago": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Dale Jones: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 13 & 14.* Veteran stand-up comic known for his odd blend of zanily frantic onstage demeanor with subtle self-deprecating observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $12 reserved seating in advance, $14 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *9–11 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764–3440.*

14 SATURDAY

★"Bird Hike": Hudson Mills Metropark. Led by Hudson Mills naturalists Jennifer Hollenbeck and Raejean Uehline. Bring binoculars and a field guide. *7:30 a.m., park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $3. Preregistration required. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

"Tripocalypse": U-M Triathlon Club. All invited to compete in a triathlon featuring a 300-m swim, 20-km bike race, and 5-km run. Awards in various age divisions, as well as for relay teams. *8 a.m., Pioneer High School. $50 (students, $35). mtriathlon.org.*

Ann Arbor Antiques Market. *Apr. 14 & 15.* Large show and sale of antiques in various styles from Americana to Art Deco. No reproductions are allowed, experts check every booth, and the items' authenticity is guaranteed. Deliveries available. Concessions. No pets. *8 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $6 (children age 12 & under accompanied by an adult, free). (937) 875–0808 (before the show), 429–3145 (day of show).*

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *Apr. 14 & 21.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. *Note:* Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16–18 must submit a permission form. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Apr. 14), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Apr. 21), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Preregistration requested. 647–8528.*

★"Spring Festival": Community Farm of Ann Arbor. All invited to help spruce up this working farm by sifting soil, weeding, painting, and doing carpentry. Volunteers can also help today with renovating the barn ($40 includes lunch and membership in the Barn Preservation Organization). With a maypole dance. Bring a bag lunch. *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Community Farm of Ann Arbor, 1525 S. Fletcher (south off Dexter-Chelsea Rd.), Chelsea. Free. 433–0261.*

"Super Seedlings": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Little Green Thumbs Program. All kids accompanied by a parent invited to learn about heirloom seeds and plant some to take home and some for the Gaffield Children's Garden. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. $5. Preregistration recommended. 647–7600.*

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. *Apr. 14, 22, & 29.* All invited to help maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *Apr. 14:* **Wurster Nature Area** *(10 a.m.–2 p.m., meet at the entrance at the cul-de-sac on Edgewood Pl. off W. Davis between Third St. & Fifth St.)* to remove garlic mustard and other invasive plants. *Apr. 22:* **Scarlett Mitchell Woods** *(1–4 p.m., meet at Scarlett Middle School parking lot, 3300 Lorraine off Platt south of Packard)* to remove invasive plants, clear trails, and spread woodchips. *Apr. 29:* **Mary Beth Doyle Nature Area** *(9 a.m.–noon, meet at the end of Verle Rd. off Platt south of Packard)* to help plant native shrubs. Also, the annual **Breeding Bird Survey Kickoff** *(Apr. 10, Leslie Science Center, 7:30 p.m.)* features a report by city ornithologist Dea Armstrong on the results of the 2011 survey. *Various times & locations. Free. 794–6627.*

★"Compost: Close Up": Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. All invited to tour the city compost center. Also, a free seedling planted in compost to take home. *10 a.m.–noon, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

★Coffee Tour: Zingerman's Coffee Company. One of Zingerman's Coffee managing partners, Allen Leibowitz or Steve Mangigian, offers a free tour of the coffee company and talks about the intricate world of java. *11 a.m.–noon, Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. Free. 929–0500.*

★"Music + Mushrooms: A Cagean Walk in the Woods": U-M School of Music. All invited to join the **U-M Electronic Chamber Music Ensemble** and the U-M Ecology and Evolutionary Biology **Mycology Reading Group** on a morel hunt in Bird Hills Park as they perform a composition inspired by John Cage's *Indeterminacy. 11 a.m., meet at the U-M Music School parking lot (1100 Baits Dr., off Broadway, North Campus) to get directions and instructions. Free. 764–0594.*

"La Traviata": Quality 16. *See review, p. 65.* Live broadcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of the finale of Verdi's ever popular adaptation of the story of Violetta, a Parisian courtesan who sacrifices her one chance at happiness when she learns that her relationship with her lover is compromising his family's honor. The score contains many of the most famous arias in the operatic repertoire, including the lilting drinking song "Libiamo, libiamo," the brilliant coloratura aria "Sempre libera," and the majestic "Di Provenza el mar." Stars Natalie Dessay, Matthew Polenzani, and Dmitri Hvorostovsky. The broadcast is reprised digitally on May 2, 6:30 p.m., and May 3, 1 p.m. *12:55–4 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $23 (seniors, $20; kids age 12 & under & students, $13.50) in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

★U-M Men's Rugby vs. Flint Rogues. The U-M city team (which includes townies as well as U-M grad students, faculty, and staff) plays this Midwest Rugby Union rival. *1 p.m., Riverside Park (off Wall St.). Free. 417–4534.*

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Apr. 14, 15, 28, & 29.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *Apr. 14 & 15:* **"Chem Mystery"** includes experiments using everyday items to create chemical reactions. *Apr. 28 & 29:* **"Mind Over Matter"** features experiments with extreme states of solids, liquids, and gases. *1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $10 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★"Library Lego League: Problem Solving": Ann Arbor District Library. All teens in grades 6–12 invited to design and build a robot to enter in a LEGO wrestling competition to see who can build the most devastating robot. *1–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Detroit Observatory. *Apr. 14 & 29.* Half-hour docent-guided tours of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763–3482.*

★"The Six Husbands Every Wife Should Have: How Couples Who Change Together Stay Together": Barnes & Noble. Therapist Steven Craig, host of *Therapy Thursdays* on WDVD (96.3 FM), discusses his new book. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★Early Music Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Edward Parmentier conducts this music student ensemble in works by Byrd, Tallis, Monteverdi, Hotteterre, Teleman, Handel, Frescobaldi, and Fontana. *4 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★J. Edgar Edwards Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by 1st-year students in the U-M creative writing MFA program, including prose by **Monique Daviau** and poetry by **Camille Beckman.** *7 p.m., U-M Work Gallery, 306 S. State. Free. mdaviau@umich.edu.*

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 7 p.m.

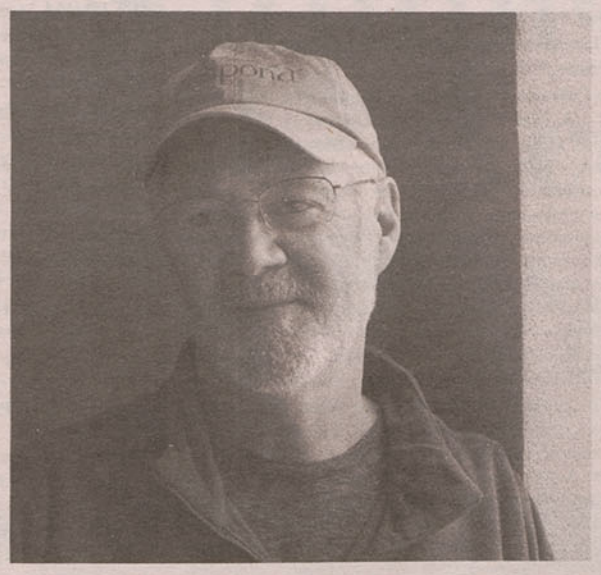
★"Manic Pixie Dream Girl": U-M Theatre Department. See 12 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★Jazz Ensemble: EMU Music Department. Donald Babcock directs this music student ensemble in a variety of spicy charts. *7:30 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *Apr. 14, 22, & 29. Apr. 14:* **"Night of the Amphibians."** WNHA naturalist Tom Hodgson discusses and displays live frogs, toads, and salamanders and leads a night walk to a nearby spring pond to look and listen for them. Bring a flashlight, dress for the weather, and be prepared to get your feet wet. *Apr. 22:* **"Strange Creatures of the Spring Pond."** WNHA naturalist Tom Hodgson discusses little-known pond creatures like the delicate fairy shrimp and fierce diving beetles and shows how to "pour a pond" for yourself. *Apr. 29:* **"Animals from Around the World."** Animals Encountered animal handler Larry Grudt presents

Jack Driscoll

Our best-kept secret?



Some folks say Jack Driscoll doesn't get out much. The same people are inclined to say that this is the reason Driscoll remains "our best-kept literary secret." If they mean that this fabulous writer hasn't yet achieved the size of audience he deserves, then I certainly agree with them. But Driscoll is indeed part of the conversation, certainly in Michigan, where he taught for several decades at the Interlochen Academy of Arts, and also nationally, where his work has won some prestigious awards. Perhaps he is known mostly as a "writer's writer," but I think that slightly condescending characterization will soon disappear.

His extraordinary new collection of short stories, *The World of a Few Minutes Ago,* should certainly bring Driscoll a host of new readers. Most of the action in these ten stories takes place in northern Michigan, and, yes, there is a lot of snow in the book. Driscoll peoples his stories with a wide assortment of characters, and they all speak with memorable and unique voices. One down-at-the-heels couple breaks into homes for fun. A retired photographer, who travelled the world taking pictures of the horrors of the last century, returns home to find his wife slipping away into indifference and dementia. A lucky hunter wins a trip to Hawaii to shoot a wild boar. A high school girl, thinking her teacher is attracted to her, discovers that he is still deeply attached to his scarred and talented wife.

It is the measure of Jack Driscoll's humanity that he is able to bring us into the lives of all of these different kinds of characters. We experience their joys and their grief. Their sadnesses are real and profound; Driscoll dismisses no one because of politics or difference or limitation. He is generous in a visceral way that few writers understand.

This generosity is reflected even in the language he uses to shape his characters—all of it precise but often very different. Here's a young woman working in a bar in northern Michigan, describing her life with her former husband: "It's sad but true that I've viewed more of this wide world than I'd like to admit from the tin-hootch roof of a house trailer with cheap venetian blinds and russet-colored dollar-a-yard carpeting. There, in the summer months, Paulie stashes a grill and a Styrofoam cooler of Hamm's on ice. And he refers to the two wooden pallets and makeshift planking that he hauled up there as our—ready for this?—portico." And contrast that with this, in the voice of the aging photographer in the collection's title story, as he tries to describe and even defend his own tentative optimism: "Consider this: stars exist that our night has never seen, but here it is again, a Friday night, and there is a breeze, and that scratchy music of crickets, like everything that rises and sets, has already begun to quiet." Each of these stories has more than one such moment, of pathos or vividness, that might bring a susceptible reader to the edge of tears.

Jack Driscoll reads from his new collection at Nicola's on Wednesday, April 18.

—Keith Taylor

a hands-on introduction to the adaptations that enable a variety of animals to survive in their different environments. *8 p.m. (Apr. 14) & 2 p.m. (Apr. 22 & 29), Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $5. 822–2120.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (students, $5). 408–1829.*

Spring Concert: U-M G-Men. This all-male student a cappella ensemble sings songs by everyone from Cee-Lo Green to the Doors. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $7 (students, $5). gmen@umich.edu.*

Women's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Julie Skadsem directs this ensemble of nonmusic majors in North American folk music, Native American music, Canadian music, and jazz. Also, a performance by the **Chicago A Cappella Men's Chorus.** *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $15 (students, $5) in advance by emailing umwgc-exec@umich.edu, and at the door. 764–0594.*

Michael Weiss: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. An eclectic mix of folk-rock originals, alt-country classics, and traditional songs by this local singer-songwriter, who accompanies himself on guitar, bass, and fiddle. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

★"Emerging Dance Artist Show": U-M Dance Department. An evening of original choreography in a mix of styles by several U-M dance majors. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. Free. 763–5461.*

Charles Lloyd New Quartet: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 70.* Veteran tenor saxophonist Lloyd is known for blending Indian music elements with Coltrane-influenced jazz in a career spanning 5 decades. His current quartet, founded in 2007, blends Lloyd's meditative style with the considerable talents of an all-star ensemble—pianist **Jason Moran,** bassist **Reuben Rogers,** and drummer **Eric Harland**—that plays unhurried, spare, and spacious compositions with presence and precision. These three young members "have their own language, articulate and intimate, itchy and soulful and often thrilling," writes a *New York Times* reviewer. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $18–$44 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

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"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Chicago": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Machinal": U-M Rude Mechanicals. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

Dale Jones: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *Apr. 14 & 21.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through Peach Mountain Observatory's huge, 24–inch McMath telescope and other instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *8:15 p.m.–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

Disappears: WCBN-FM/The Blind Pig. Chicago rock band whose music is an unusual mashup of krautrock, shoegaze, and garage rock. Opening acts are **Lotus Plaza,** the stage name of ambient pop singer-songwriter Lockett Pundt of the Atlanta-based indie rock band Deerhunter, and **Mother Whale,** a Detroit ambient noise band. *9 p.m., The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Tickets $10 in advance at etix.com and at the door. 996–8555.*

15 SUNDAY

"The Big House Big Heart": Champions for Charity. 10-km (8 a.m.) and 5-km (9:10 a.m.) runs through the U-M campus that end up in Michigan Stadium. Also, a 1-mile fun run (10:30 a.m.). Shoes for overall male & female winners; awards for the top 5 runners in 5-year age groups. All participants receive a T-shirt. A portion of the proceeds benefits Mott Hospital and the U-M ALS Clinic. The run is preceded on Apr. 14 by a free health expo (10 a.m.–4 p.m.) in Pioneer High School. *8 a.m., Michigan Stadium. $36 (5-km & 10-km) & $18 (fun run) in advance at thebighousebigheart.com, $39 (5-km & 10-km) & $23 (fun run) day of race. 213–1033.*

"The Ann Arbor Record & CD Show": Wildwood Records. Popular quarterly fair with more than 50 dealers from a half-dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs as well as hard-to-find new releases. Also, rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. Food & beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small number of records to sell. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $3 admission (children age 10 & under, free). (574) 329–1483.*

"Celebration of Spring at the Farm": Cobblestone Farm Association. Tours of the restored 1844 Ticknor-Campbell farmhouse led by costumed volunteers, who depict mid-19th-century farm routines and preparations for spring, including a woodstove cooking demo and some hands-on activities. Also, resident goats, sheep, ducks, and chickens. Visitors can also get up on a 19th-century soap box to speak your piece, work off your tax day frustrations by trying out a trebuchet (an old-fashioned gravity-fueled catapult), or play lawn games like stilts and hoops. *Noon–4 p.m., Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). $2 suggested donation (families, $5; seniors & youth, $1; kids age 3 & under and members, free). 794–7120.*

"Rock Music Concert for Kidz": Mister Laurence Experience. This popular local kiddie-rock trio—Mister Laurence, his wife Princess Melinda, and the animatronic OSO the Drumming Bear—performs zany originals and clever arrangements of kiddie classics billed as "sophisticated enough for the grownup ear, yet silly enough to keep the little ones glued." Raffle of a Mister Laurence Experience music video. *Noon, Oz's, 1920 Packard. $5 (family, $15). 883–0964.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** First Steps Washtenaw instructor Monica Higman leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and movement. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Learn about Lichens": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** A hike to look at the many colors and forms of these common but often overlooked organisms. *2–4 p.m., Park Lyndon south, east parking lot, North Territorial Rd. (15 miles west of US-23), Dexter. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**"Papermaking from Pulp to Sheet": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn how to make paper. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Recent Acquisitions: Curator's Choice, Part II": UMMA.** *Apr. 15 & 29.* Docent-led tour of this exhibit of Asian art that includes historic and modern ceramics, woodwork, and basketry. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

★**"The War of 1812": Saline Area Historical Society.** Talk by River Raisin Battlefield director John Gibney. *2–3:30 p.m., Saline District Library, 555 N. Maple, Saline. Free. 944–0442.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music by David West and Donna Baird. Grange-baked cookies. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $12 per family. 769–1052.*

"All About the Trio": Kerrytown Concert House. U-M jazz pianist **Ellen Rowe** leads her trio in a lecture-concert celebrating the renowned late bassist Ray Brown and his various musical trios. With bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers. *2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Chicago": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 12 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Machinal": U-M Rude Mechanicals. See 13 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**"Manic Pixie Dream Girl": U-M Theatre Department.** See 12 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

★**"Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows: An Introduction to Carnism": Mindful Eating Coalition.** Slide-illustrated talk by social psychologist Melanie Joy on her acclaimed book. *3 p.m., 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 665–6158.*

★**"Urban Agriculture in Detroit, Part II: Imagining the Future of Urban Agriculture in Detroit": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Detroit Planning Commission senior planner Kathryn Lynch Underwood. *3–5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**Ann Arbor Classics Book Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Rabbit Run,*** John Updike's novel about a young suburbanite, a former high school basketball star, trying to escape the confinements of his adult life. Refreshments. *3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Student Recital: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** *Apr. 15 & 29.* Program TBA at aa-spa.org. *3 p.m., AASPA, 637 S. Main. Free. 213–2000.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**"The Three Weissmans of Westport": Society of Women Engineers Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Cathleen Schine's novel—a contemporary homage to Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*—about an elderly woman who moves to a beach cottage with her adult daughters when her husband divorces her. Also, a potluck to celebrate the club's 16th anniversary. Bring hors d'oeuvres to share. *4 p.m., Tilbury residence, call for directions. Free. 355–9752.*

★**Alumni Band: EMU Music Department.** This ensemble of EMU music grads is joined by 2 ensembles of current music students, the **Symphonic Band** and the **Wind Symphony,** for a program TBA. *4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Empire Brass: Concordia University. Popular annual performance by this renowned Boston University quintet-in-residence. "They simply have no competition when it comes to the beauty and clarity and accuracy and balance and interaction of their playing," says the *Boston Globe.* "The first phrase of any Empire Brass performance ... sends a thrill of pleasure through your nervous system." *4 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10). 995–4612.*

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Summer Camps

Right now, with snow still intermittently on the ground and school very much in session, my son's idea of the perfect summer consists of being parked in front of his Xbox with occasional breaks for pizza. But I know better—even if he doesn't. A week of that, and he'd be bouncing off the walls and begging to get out of the house and do something. Perhaps more importantly, I would be bouncing and begging him to get out of the house and do something. My walls can't take that kind of stress.

Cool thing is, there are plenty of great "somethings" to get out and do in the Ann Arbor area this summer. I don't know about you, but I'm enrolling him before that Xbox even has a chance to warm up.

That said, not all kids are outdoorsy types, and there's no reason summer camp has to look like tents, swimming, and dubious latrines. For kids who are techies, **Brain Monkeys** offers Michigan's premier technology and adventure summer day camp. The program offers an inquiry-based curriculum in which teachers act as facilitators, encouraging students to think for themselves, pose questions, investigate hypotheses, and derive solutions. Technologies studied include Arduino programming, LEGO Mindstorms robotics, and Linux.

Kids who like to move-it-move-it but who wilt in the heat might like **Gym America's** Gold, Mini, and Pre-School camps. All of them are staffed by enthusiastic coaches using state-of-the-art equipment in a deliciously air-conditioned facility. Gold and Mini camps are for age 5 and up, and include gymnastics, games, swimming, and other fun activities; Pre-school camp is for ages 3 to 5 and includes gymnastics, games, and art projects.

There's plenty of room to roam on **Go Like the Wind Montessori School's** sprawling 40-acre campus, where weekly themed camps introduce nurturing, creative, and intellectually stimulating activities like adventure walks, arts and crafts, educational projects, and, for older kids, sports, picnics, cooking, and off-campus field trips. With over 24 years' experience, Go Like the Wild provides high-quality, well-rounded summer fun for kids ages 3 to 9.

For parents seeking a safe, natural setting for their young children, look no further than **Little Folk's Corner**! This is an ideal learning environment for early childhood education, and the one-on-one time they will receive is a must in order to develop critical thinking skills. Various learning activities are offered, ranging from lessons in art to math, science, music, and literature. Numerous playgrounds and outdoor activities are offered as well. Sign your little folk, ages infant through kinder-

Conducted by U-M head coaches Bruce Berque and Ronni Bernstein

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garten, up today.

More outdoor fun is on hand at **Michigan OutofDoors Youth Camp**, held each year at the historic Cedar Lake Outdoor Center inside the Waterloo State Recreation area near Chelsea. The residential camp allows kids of all ages to get to know the outdoors while gaining new skills and self-confidence through hands-on nature experiences. A new day camp option is available for kids who aren't quite ready to spend several nights away from home.

For kids who want to be able to swash a buckle like Captain Jack Sparrow, **Ring of Steel** is one of only three sword- and stunt-fighting camps in the country. This summer, Ring of Steel teaches kids ages 8 through 18 how to (pretend to) fight using real steel swords, and how to perform movie-style stunts such as high falls, mini trampoline jumps, and simulated hand-to-hand combat. Arrrr, matey! Or, if you prefer, en garde!

Summer Camp is a whirlwind of activity at **Summers-Knoll**. In the school's Action camps, math, science, language arts, and creative arts all come to life, with two levels for different ages. In Escape camps, children hit the road for daily adventures, taking in the sights and sounds of Ann Arbor's opportunity-rich resources. Camps with unique themes and experiences are offered each week throughout the summer, and children can attend a single week, or select a variety of camps to build on and broaden their experience. New this year: an advanced Jedi Training camp for graduates of the school's Star Wars camps.

Kids climbing the walls? Let them do it safely with the awesome, experienced staff at **Planet Rock's** climbing camps, ongoing since 1996. Agility, Balance & Coordination (ABC) Camp for kids ages 4–7 incorporates climbing skills and safety with yoga, gymnastics and educational games. Climbing camps for kids 8–15 combine climbing safety with building self-confidence, improving teamwork and communication, and having fun. New this year, Planet Rock is also offering Extended Camp until 5:30 to accommodate working families.

Rock your kid's world in a different way with the **Rocks and Robots** half- and full-day camps for ages 6–17, starting with the very basics of programming LEGO models to move and interact. Campers progress to team building, using LEGO science and technology sets to create things like eggbeaters, and then move on to design and create computer-controlled robots that sumo wrestle. They also write software programs and build pod racers. Full-day campers get the chance to rock climb and learn about such things as knot tying and

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safety during afternoon field trips. Older campers even get to walk a tightrope and fly down a zip line through the woods!

Whether your kids are budding tennis pros or think "racket sports" means making noise, they'll have fun and build skills at **U-M's Tennis Camp.** Taught by U-M coaches Bruce Berque and Ronni Bernstein, current and former players, and local pros, the camp covers individual stroke coaching for both singles and doubles, extensive skills instruction, tactical drilling, and supervised match play. Camp takes place at the university's state-of-the-art Varsity Tennis Center.

The **U-M School of Art's** summer programs offer serious art students the chance to broaden their artistic horizons and hone their drawing, painting, and conceptual thinking skills. Taught by U-M faculty and staff, programs include the residential BFA Prep program, for high school students, that reflects the Art School's interdisciplinary approach to design and creative problem solving; Portfolio Prep, a residential program for high school students to hone drawing and painting skills; and In the Middle, a day camp for middle schoolers to begin investigating the visual arts.

As Picasso once said, "Every child is an artist". Help bring the artist out in your child at the **Ann Arbor Art Center's Creativity Camp**. They'll be inspired by animals during Wild Kingdom week, create eco-friendly inspirations during Up-Cycle It week, and celebrate America during the Red, White, and You week, just to name a few of the weekly themes. Their extraordinary staff of experienced instructors will provide guidance and encouragement as your camper explores an array of media, culture, and art-making techniques. Full-, and half-day sessions are available, along with pre- and post-camp care. Sign your camper, age 5—12, up for some art-filled summertime fun!

The Discovery Center preschool and kindergarten offers charming half- and full-day camp options, including Explorer's Camp for preschoolers and Adventure Summer Camp for graduates of kindergarten and first grade. Each of the summer camps incorporates weekly themes like "Experimenting with Science," "Helpers and Heroes," or "Art Expressions," and features field trips to local farmers markets, museums, fire departments, and other community resources. Three-, four-, and five-day camp options are available, and full-day preschool programs will continue all year long.

Kids can enjoy an old-fashioned summer at **Blue Turtle Nature Awareness and Wilderness Skills Camp**, a one-acre homestead with a naturalized meadow,

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
art-design.umich.edu/programs/summer
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& Activities

native plants, a tepee, and a fire circle, plus a twenty-five-acre nature area a short walk away. This hands-on camp offers a unique experience allowing kids to connect with the world around them through wilderness skills and nature awareness in a playful environment designed to nurture cooperation, inclusion, and friendship. Each day also includes drumming, craft projects, culinary adventures, and team-building games.

Whether your kids are couch potatoes or fitness enthusiasts, Camp Liberty has a place for them. **Liberty Athletic Club Summer Day Camp** offers swimming and tennis lessons, sports activities, creative projects, and more, with each week revolving around a different theme. All campers have access to the rock wall and both indoor and outdoor water parks. There are half-day camps for ages 5–7, full-day camps for ages 5–10.

My son is just learning how to spike the ball over the net. He'd love **Michigan Volleyball Camp**, with general and elite skills programs geared to all levels of experience. This popular camp, which has sold out for the past five years, has both residential and day camp options, a great camper-to-coach 8:1 ratio, and a high-energy learning environment. Kids come to camp ready for it, and learn tons about the game.

Kids are almost guaranteed to come home tuckered out after **U-M Kidsport** day camps! Staffed by certified teachers, as well as physical education and education majors, Kidsport offers morning and afternoon sessions of full-out sports play. There's optional aftercare, as well as discounts and scholarships available. This year, the program is partnering with Camp Explorations and Outdoor Adventures for even more variety of activities.

The Ann Arbor YMCA offers traditional overnight camps at Camp Al-Gon-Quian, day camps at Camp Birkett on Silver Lake, and more than 30 themed day camps, including chemistry, horseback riding, extreme sports, survival skills, and, new this year, Fit Kids and the destined-to-be-popular Glee! Camp. All camps reflect the Y's commitment to honesty, respect, responsibility and caring, and financial assistance is available. The Y also offers leader-in-training programs for campers ages 13–16 designed to help them build leadership skills and assume some of the counselor responsibilities while still having fun at Camp Birkett.

Bottom line: even if the weather outside is still frightful, now's the time to think summer and get in on these camps before they sell out. The alternative? You, your kid, and the longest days of your life listening to the theme from

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Benefit Concert: Our Own Thing Chorale. U-M music professor emeritus Willis Patterson directs this popular local choir in a program of spirituals and works by African American composers. Proceeds benefit OOTC's instructional program. *4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Donation. 662–1679.*

★**"Everest Base Camp Trek": The Himalayan Bazaar.** Screening of a travel video about Kathmandu and the Mt. Everest base camp. Also, information about upcoming trips to Nepal. *5:30 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997–7229.*

★**"Cloud Nine": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** RC drama instructor Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in Caryl Churchill's racy, merrily merciless spoof of Victorian moral pretensions. Set in British Africa in 1880, the 1st act is a nonstop round-robin of sexual liaisons involving a British functionary and his family. The 2nd act is set in 1980s London (though the characters have aged a mere 25 years). It blends farce and pathos in a surprising denouement. *7 p.m., RC Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4359.*

Matthew Coley & Sonic Inertia: Kerrytown Concert House. Percussionist and marimba-dulcimer-cimbalom player Coley, an Iowa State University music professor, is joined by the Chicago-based chamber music, dance, and electronic media collective Sonic Inertia in a performance of contemporary percussion works. Program: local award-winning composer Steven Simpson's *Marimba Quartet, Radioactive Octopus,* and the premiere of *Flow for Cello & Marimba,* with Chicago cellist **Russ Rolen.** *7:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"4 in 24": New Theatre Project. Performances of 4 one-act plays by 4 playwrights TBA on a theme announced 24 hours before showtime. *8 p.m., Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Pay-what-you-can admission. 645–9776.*

16 MONDAY

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 975–4348.*

★**"Masters of Disasters: How Adults, Teens, and Youth Can Be Prepared": Ann Arbor District Library.** Red Cross staff discuss natural disasters and how to prepare for them. *7–8 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Meet a Shipwreck Survivor": Ann Arbor District Library.** Pierette Domenica Simpson, author of the memoir *Alive on the Andrea Doria!* and the new young adult novel *I Was Shipwrecked on the Andrea Doria: The Titanic of the 1950s,* discusses her experience as a survivor of the collision off Nantucket of the ocean liners *Andrea Doria* and *Stockholm* in July 1956. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Nonfiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Arc of Justice: Saga of Race, Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age,*** Ohio State University history professor Kevin Boyle's acclaimed book about a sensational murder case that was a key episode in the early history of the civil rights movement and race relations in Detroit. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Craig Combs: Nicola's Books.** This Michigan poet reads from ***Taking Tea in the Black Rose,*** his new collection of poems that combine passion for personal freedom and global equality with appreciation for natural beauty. Signing. *Note:* Combs also reads from his new book at Common Language on Apr. 28 (see listing). *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Members' Bourse Night: Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Members sell stamps from their personal collections. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

★**Katie Halton: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This club member discusses the inspiration for her colorful paintings. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 996–2551.*

★**"Close Encounters of the Plant Kind: Extraordinary Fossils from a Past Greenhouse Climate": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by U-M paleobotanist Selena Smith. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. (810) 923–5860.*

★**Concert Band: EMU Music Department.** Amy Knopps directs this music student ensemble in a program TBA. *8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Christopher James Lees conducts this music student ensemble in 2 beloved but strikingly different works, Rossini's cheerfully comedic *Overture to La Gazza Ladra* and Mendelssohn's tumultuous *Reformation Symphony.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture about the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"C.P. Cavafy in Music: A Recital of Songs and Reflections": U-M Modern Greek Program.** The renowned German-bred Greek mezzo soprano **Alexandra Gravas,** accompanied by pianist Pantelis Polychronidis, performs settings of poems by the Greek modernist Cavafy, Mitropoulos, Hadjidakis, Theodorakis, Brown, Rorem, Gompper, local Pulitzer Prize–winning composer William Bolcom, and others. With commentary by U-M modern Greek professor Vassilios Lambropoulos on the notoriously difficult challenges Cavafy's poetry poses for composers, and the diverse musical idioms that may be used to turn it into art song. *8–10 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936–6099.*

17 TUESDAY

★**"Beyond Visegard: A Discussion with the Former Leaders of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and the Slovak Republic": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.** Panel discussion with former Slovak Republic president **Rudolf Schuster,** former Polish president **Aleksander Kwasniewski,** former Hungarian president **Laszlo Solyom,** and former Czech prime minister **Petr Pithart.** *4–6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"'Smashing the Masher': The Response to Street Harassment in Progressive Era America": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Stanford University history professor **Estelle Freedman,** a prominent feminist scholar. *4–5:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

"Artisan Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young hosts a dinner showcasing local artisan food producers, and Zingerman's bakers Amy Emberling and Frank Carollo, cheesemakers John Loomis and Aubrey Thomason, candymaker Charlie Frank, and coffee roasters Allen Leibowitz and Steve Mangigian discuss their personal stories, the history of their businesses, and why the food they make is special. *7–10 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

"A Woman's Journey Toward Financial Independence": American Business Women's Association. Talk by financial advisor Jennifer Hopwood. Preceded by networking (6 p.m.) and dinner (6:30 p.m.). *7 p.m., Carlyle Grill, 3660 Jackson Rd. $10–$13 (includes dinner). Preregistration required at abwa-maia.org/events.html.*

★**"Beverly Meyer, the Music Lady": Ann Arbor District Library.** This popular area children's entertainer presents an interactive family concert for preschoolers through age 5. *7–8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"The Aaron/Q'uo Dialogues: An Extraordinary Conversation Between Two Spiritual Guides": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry founder Brodsky discusses her new book. Signing. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"It Was Twenty Years Ago Today ... I'd Love to Turn You On: Meaning, Memory, and Marijuana in *Sgt. Pepper*": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by local musicologist (and Observer music reviewer) Jim Leonard. In conjunction with the April 21 performance of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* by the Fab Faux (see listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Huron-Clinton Metroparks: Care of Our Diverse Ecosystems": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority natural resources director Paul Muelle. Refreshments. *7:30–9 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 647–7600.*

★**American Association of University Women.** League of Women Voters state president Susan Smith moderates a panel discussion on **public schools and charter schools** and the state legislation affecting them. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973–6287.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. April theme: **"Competition."** The 3 judges are recruited from the

ERIC KABIK

Romanticism meets Classicism

Violinist Joshua Bell with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

Is this some kind of mistake?

That the UMS is presenting American violinist Joshua Bell as the soloist in Beethoven's Violin Concerto in their season's closing concert on Sunday, April 22, is surely no mistake. Known for his lush tone, impeccable technique, and highly expressive interpretations, Bell is a natural for the work's long lyrical lines. And that the orchestra backing him is London's Academy of St. Martin in the Fields likewise makes sense. The Academy has been the very definition of a modern chamber orchestra since its founding by Sir Neville Marriner in 1959, and it's certainly an apt choice for the work's refined elegance.

But Bell isn't just the soloist. He's also leading the Academy in the concerto plus the rest of the all-Beethoven program: the big and brutal *Coriolan Overture* that opens the show and the Dionysian Seventh Symphony that closes it.

The Academy clearly thinks he can do it: it hired Bell last September to serve as its music director for three seasons, though he's spending just three weeks with them the first year, part of it headlining this American tour.

From a purely technical point of view, of course, the Academy doesn't really need a conductor in some repertoire. As a chamber orchestra, they're not just smaller than a symphonic orchestra; their players actually perform as chamber musicians, watching each other for cues and taking far more responsibility for their parts. Tellingly, while Bell will stand as the soloist in the concerto, he'll lead from the concertmaster's chair at the front of the violinists for the rest of the program, making him literally first among equals.

Even if Bell and the Academy pull it off technically, *Coriolan* is an extremely dramatic work with gargantuan dynamic contrasts. Who'll handle the interpretation and make sure the structure coheres? And the Seventh rocks as hard as a roadhouse band on Friday night and needs staying power along with orchestral virtuosity. Who's going to keep the band tight and in the groove, and who's going to keep them rocking when they've blasted through three movements and still have to bash their way through the final *Allegro con brio*? Who knows? And that's what makes sports events and live musical performances compelling: you never know what'll happen. You may love it. You may hate it. But if you don't show up, you'll never know.

—James Leonard

audience. Monthly winners compete in a Grand Slam each spring (see 11 Wednesday listing). *7:30–9 p.m. (sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. $5. 764–5118.*

★**Percussion and African Ensembles: EMU Music Department.** John Dorsey and Kofi Ameyaw direct these 2 EMU music student ensembles in a program showcasing standard and multiethnic configurations of percussion instruments and repertoires. *7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**U-M Graduate Percussion Group: U-M School of Music.** This new ensemble performs a tribute in honor of John Cage's centennial birthday, including Cage's *Third Construction* and contemporary chamber works. *8 p.m. U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Electronic Chamber Music: On Cage on Cage on Cage": U-M School of Music.** Michael Gurevich directs performing arts technology students in a program in honor of John Cage's centennial birthday, including Cage's *Rozart Mix, Speech 1955, 0'00"*, and *Fontana Mix. 10 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Studio A, 1310 North University Ct. (off Observatory). Free. 764–0594.*

18 WEDNESDAY

"U-M Musical Theater Concert": Society for Musical Arts. U-M musical theater students are joined by mezzo-soprano (and U-M voice professor) **Melody Racine** in a program of Broadway show tunes. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch ($13). *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $15 (accompanying friend, $13; students with ID, $5) at the door only. Lunch reservations required. 662–3279.*

★**"Jewish Music in the Holocaust": U-M Center for European Studies.** Talk by U-M voice professors Timothy Cheek and Caroline Helton, with special attention to the work of the Czech composer **Pavel Haas,** in anticipation of the Pavel Haas Quartet concert this evening (see listing). Cheek and Helton are joined by bass-baritone Allen Schrott and pianist Kathryn Goodson to provide musical illustrations of their talk. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. *12:30–1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

Arie Lipsky & Friends: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights Series. All seniors invited to a recital by an ensemble led by cellist Lipsky, the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra music director. Program TBA. Preceded at 1 p.m. by refreshments & socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $8. 971–0990.*

★**"Title IX, Perhaps the Most Important Piece of Legislation Affecting Women/Society Over the Past 40 Years": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Rutgers University women's basketball coach Vivian Stringer. *3–4:30 p.m., U-M Ford School of Public Policy, Room TBA, 735 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★**Francine Prose: U-M Hopwood Awards Ceremony.** Lecture by this acclaimed NYC novelist and essayist, author of the National Book Award finalist *Blue Angel* and the nonfiction book *Reading Like a Writer.* Her talk highlights the annual ceremony recognizing the winners of the prestigious U-M contest for graduate and undergraduate poetry, fiction, and nonfiction writing. *3:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–6296.*

★**Flute Ensembles: EMU Music Department.** Julie Stone directs her flute students in a varied pro-

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L. April Gago M.D.
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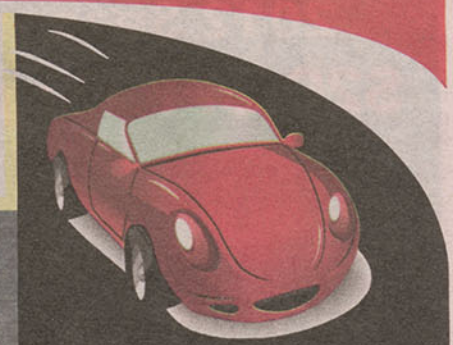
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gram of solo and ensemble works TBA. *6 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**"How to Break Out of the Pack: Marketing Your Self-Published Book": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion with Ingenex Digital search engine marketing director Kai Blum, Novel Publicity president Emlyn Chand, and local novelist and Pulitzer Prize nominee Anne Pearlman. Moderated by PublishSavvy owner Shannon Janeczek. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Jack Driscoll: Nicola's Books.** *See review, p. 75.* This award-winning Michigan fiction writer and poet reads from ***The World of a Few Minutes Ago,*** his new collection of short stories set in Northern Michigan and told from the points of view of a range of characters, aged 12 to 77, grappling with memory and attachments to the past. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Stars on Stage": WCC Performing Arts Department.** Recital by students in WCC dance classes. *7 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River. Dr. Free. 677–5090.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss Tom Fitzmorris's ***Hungry Town: A Culinary History of New Orleans, the City Where Food Is Almost Everything.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"New Guinea Adventure": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by Oakland Audubon Society president Don Burlett. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

Pavel Haas Quartet: University Musical Society. Regarded as one of the most exciting young string quartets, this Prague-based ensemble's dramatic, lively music explores the extremes of dynamic expression, from full-bodied orchestral sound to vibrato-less whispers. Founded in 2002, the quartet is named for the Czech composer who died in a WWII concentration camp. Tonight's performance includes a Haas quartet scored for string quartet and percussion, featuring percussionist and U-M music professor **Joseph Gramley.** Also, Tchaikovsky's Quartet No. 1 in D major and Smetana's Quartet No. 1 in E minor. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $20–$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**Syropoulos-Malis Duo: UMMA Jazz Series.** U-M saxophone student Alekos Syropoulos and Detroit jazz pianist Michael Malis perform their own blend of jazz and Greek music. *8 p.m., UMMA Forum, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

★**"Exploring Korea": International Neighbors.** Korean club members introduce their culture through dance, food, and other features. All area women invited. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

★**"Thrice Accused/Thrice Excused: Slander and Witchcraft Trials in Massachusetts in 1600": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by genealogist Grace Bliss Smith. Smith gives the same talk on Apr. 22 (see listing). *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"April in Paris": U-M Clark Library.** Display of early maps of Paris, including Turgot's 1739 map, Belleforest's 1575 map, the Haussmann plan for Paris, and others. *4–7 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library, 2nd floor, enter from Diag. Free. 764–0410.*

Cooking Demos: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Apr. 19, 23, & 24. Apr. 19:* **"Health Starts Here."** A Whole Foods staffer demonstrates 3 easy recipes. *Apr. 23:* **"Baking Bread: Sourdough."** Demo by a Whole Foods staffer. *Apr. 24:* Al Dente Pasta founder Monique Deschaine demonstrates **"Healthy, Delicious Pasta—On the Table in Minutes!"** *6:30 p.m. (Apr. 19), 7 p.m. (Apr. 23), and 7:30 p.m. (Apr. 24), Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $10. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**"Running Blind": Ann Arbor District Library.** Michigan Blind Athletic Association board member Hal Wolfe discusses competitive sports for the blind, and Michigan Parents of Children with Visual Impairments president Amy Shepherd discusses the impact of sports on her visually impaired son. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Jamaal May: Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Poetry reading by this Bucknell University Stadler Center for Poetry fellow, a Detroit native who is a 2-time World Poetry Slam finalist. His chapbooks, *The God Engine* and *The Whetting of Teeth,* feature syntactically limpid, vividly figured, playfully riddling poems on quotidian themes. The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 7 p.m.

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Rudolf Steiner's American Verse and Human Evolution": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Talk by Anthroposophical Society of America communications director John Beck. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 944–4903.*

★**"Evolution of Grandparents": Michigan Archaeological Society.** CMU anthropology professor Rachel Caspari discusses the point in human history 30,000 years ago when grandparents became prevalent. *7:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

Dick Siegel & the Brandos: Music Under the Arch. Siegel, an immensely gifted and versatile composer whose songs offer all sorts of immediate musical and lyrical pleasures, performs with his band. *7:30 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets $15 & $20 (students, $10) in advance at musicunderthearch.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. 316–2118.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Apr. 19–May 27.* Carla Milarch directs the Michigan premiere of John Logan's Tony-winning drama about the great American abstract expressionist painter Mark Rothko. Over the course of 2 years working on his famous commission to provide a series of murals for the Four Seasons restaurant, Rothko is challenged by his apprentice in a way that causes him to question what he has become. "Red may be all talk and no action—but what talk!" says *Variety* reviewer Marilyn Stasio. "John Logan sends American abstract impressionist painter Mark Rothko into battle with his demons in this electrifying play of ideas, and the artist's howls are pure music." Stars Mark Rademacher and Kevin Young. *7:30 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Apr. 19), $22 (Apr. 20, 22, & 26), and $30 (Apr. 21). Apr. 27 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After Apr. 27: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

Ballet Preljocaj: University Musical Society. *Apr. 19–21.* One of Europe's most prominent dance companies performs avant-garde French choreographer Angelin Preljocaj's ***Snow White,*** an arresting adaptation of the classic Grimm Brothers' fairytale set to a score of Gustav Mahler's symphonies. This version sympathizes with Snow White's stepmother, the Queen, and her longing to be desirable and seductive in the shadow of her young, beautiful daughter. This ballet is designed to shake up viewers' familiarity with the chaste, cartoon version and includes costumes by haute-couture designer Jean Paul Gaultier. Contains brief nudity and mature themes; not recommended for young audiences. *7:30 p.m. (Apr. 19) & 8 p.m. (Apr. 20 & 21), Power Center. Tickets $18–$54 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Bela Fleck & the Flecktones: The Ark. Original lineup of this celebrated all-star quartet, led by the great New Grass Revival banjoist Bela Fleck, that plays a unique blend of bluegrass, jazz, funk, world beat, and avant-garde electronic music. With harmonica player Howard Levy, bassist Victor Wooten, and his brother percussionist Roy "Futureman" Wooten, who also plays percussion electronically with his fingers on an electric guitar body he designed. It has a new CD, *Rocket Science. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $29.50–$65 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union*

children's theater

Jamie and Jordan

Friendship, health, and fun

Jamie and Jordan, which returns on April 28 as part of the monthly Performance Network children's theater series, is a charming musical about two boys born in the same hospital on the same day who become best friends until a twist of fate (and ankle) separates them, with lessons about healthy lifestyle and healthy friendship. It is not so hard for adults to guess where this story is going to go, but how it gets there is a delight—and not heavy-handed at all. There are laughs. There are tears. There are great lines like "Your mom has some cut-up fruit on the dining table." Parents can lecture for years before kids see the consequences—both good and bad—that this play shows clearly and convincingly in one hour.

My girlfriend Annie and I thought this play sounded perfect for our two boys—friends since preschool—who like playing Nintendo DS and not eating vegetables a bit too much. When neither of our boys was able to make it that day, we decided to go anyway, and, even without the cozy safety net of our children, it wasn't long before we, too, were dancing and singing in the aisles. Really.

Performance Network offers children's theater for students in grades K–6 with fairy tales, history, multicultural content, and healthy themes, all with humor and a strong musical beat. Sure, it's educational, but it's fun and interactive, too. Designed to support Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations, these productions tour schools and libraries around the state, and they are showcased here at the Saturday Series for Young Audiences. Four different plays are offered twice every season, with *Jamie and Jordan* reprising in April and *Wolverine Will* in May.

Jamie and Jordan follows the friends as they sing and dance from birth through elementary school and learn about healthy eating, playing sports, studying hard, and helping each other. Before the play begins, the actors do some call-and-response exercises and teach the audience how to do the Wave. The children in attendance are so comfortable interacting with the actors that when the play formally begins and one character cannot find her glasses, a child shouts out, "They're on your head!" The actors do not have to do much convincing—when it is time to get up and dance, the kids are already dancing on their own.

Following the play was a reception with milk and healthy snacks. I have never seen kids so excited about apple slices. It really worked!

—Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

Ticket Office (mutotix.com), and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Gary Gulman: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 19–21.* This Massachusetts comic, a former finalist in the NBC show *Last Comic Standing* and star of the HBO miniseries *Tourgasm,* specializes in irreverently hilarious observations about everyday life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $11 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $13 (Thurs.) & $17 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

20 FRIDAY

★Agility Trials: Ann Arbor Dog Training Club. *April 20–22.* Local dogs zip through a tricky obstacle course. Rain or shine. *9 a.m.–2 p.m. (Apr. 20) & 8:30 a.m.–afternoon (Apr. 21 & 22), Ann Arbor Dog Training Club, 1575 E. North Territorial Rd. (1½ miles east of US-23). Free. 995–2801.*

Habitat for Humanity Annual Fundraiser. Families who have been helped by Habitat tell their stories. Also, live music by the local jazz ensemble **Five Miles More,** live and silent auctions, and hors d'oeuvres. *6–9 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River. Dr. Tickets $50 in advance at h4h.org. 677–1558, ext. 121.*

6th Annual Dining for Kids: Allen Creek Preschool Fundraiser. Dinner, music spun by a DJ, and a silent auction. *6:30 p.m., Polo Fields Golf and Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Dr. Tickets $100. 994–3382.*

★"Summer of '68: The Season That Changed Baseball—and America—Forever": Nicola's Books. *USA Today Baseball Weekly* founder **Tim Wendel** discusses his new book about the remarkable 1968 baseball season that played out against the backdrop of political upheaval in the wake of the Detroit riots and MLK's assassination. Ken Burns says, "Wendel gets to the heart of this game and the complicated republic it so precisely mirrors." Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0060.*

Spring Ball: Red Barn Family English Dance. Ray Bantle and Drake Meadow lead family-friendly dances for age 7 & older with music by the Red Barn Orchestra. Fancy dress encouraged but not required. Elegant refreshments served at the break. All dances taught. No partner or experience necessary. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). *7–9:30 p.m., Domino's Farms red barn, Via Sacra Dr. (off Ave Maria Dr. from Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). $6 (families, $15; students, $4). 665–7704.*

★"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard. *Every Fri. beginning Apr. 20.* With different local musicians each week. Tonight: **Hullabaloo,** a popular local ska and 80s-style pop quintet. Weather permitting. *7–9 p.m., Mark's Carts, 211 W. Washington. Free. 224–8859.*

Sumkali. Local 10-piece band led by tabla player John Churchville and sitarist Meeta Banerjee that blends classical Indian music with jazz and funk idioms. Also, other performers TBA. A benefit for the

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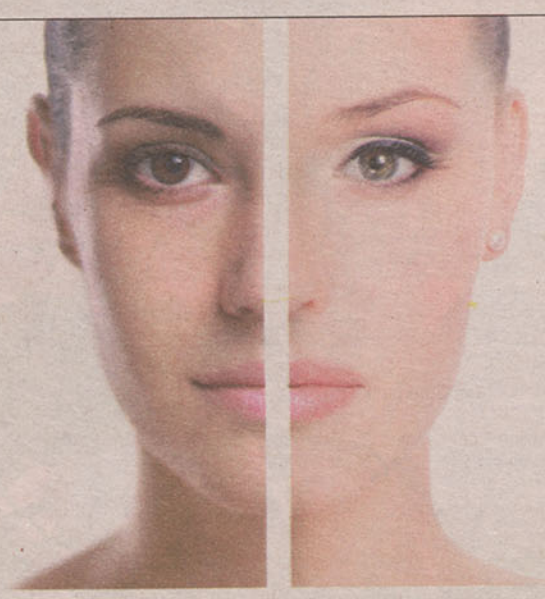

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Huron High School senior class graduation celebration in June. *7 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. $10. (810) 610–6581.*

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers.** Club member Mark Cowles discusses **"Rails Around Cleveland"** and club member Gerald Grossman discusses **"Ann Arbor Railroad."** *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church blue classroom, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996–8345, 971–8329.*

★**Concordia University Choir.** This student choir is joined by the Concordia chamber choir **Arborsong** in works by Brahms, Bruckner, and Schütz, as well as American settings of works by Conte, Shaw, and Bartholomew. *8 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

★**University Choirs and Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department.** Mark Marotto and Kevin Miller direct these music student ensembles in a program TBA. *8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255, 484–3237.*

★**"Mubadale/Antallage": U-M Modern Greek Program.** A U-M music student orchestra, chorus, and soloists perform the world premiere of U-M composition grad student Recep Gul's DMA dissertation, a cantata about the 1923 Greco-Turkish compulsory population exchange. *8 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936–6099.*

Ronn McFarlane & Mindy Rosenfeld: Academy of Early Music. Grammy-nominated lutenist McFarlane and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra (San Francisco) flutist Rosenfeld perform works by Handel, Hotteterre, Oswald, and Blavet, as well as anonymous 18th-century Scottish tunes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture about the program. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $20 (seniors, $17; students, $5) in advance at AcademyofEarlyMusic.org, Nicola's Books (Westgate shopping center), & by phone, and at the door. 528–1838.*

Ben Rolston: Kerrytown Concert House. This Ann Arbor–bred composer-bassist, a recent U-M Jazz Studies grad, celebrates the release of his new CD. With saxophonist/bass clarinetist Andrew Bishop, trumpeter Ingrid Racine, tenor saxophonist Marcus Elliot, guitarist Alex Levine, harmonium player Steve Rush, pianist Ian Finkelstein, and drummer Julian Allen. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Ballet Preljocaj: University Musical Society. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Gary Gulman: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

21 SATURDAY

★**"River Roundup": Huron River Watershed Council.** All invited to learn about and help collect macroinvertebrates—including insect larvae and other small creatures like crayfish—from Huron River tributaries as part of this popular annual Adopt-a-Stream event for measuring the river's health. Bring a bag lunch. Kids welcome if accompanied by an adult. Rain or shine. *9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. & 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m. (pick one session), meeting location TBA. Free. Preregistration required at hrwc.org/volunteer/roundup by April 15. 769–5123.*

★**"iCloud and What's New at Apple": MacTechnics.** Talk and demonstration by Apple employee Dave Ginbey. Followed by a chance to grill tech experts. *9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 275 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg. (follow the signs from parking lots 6 & 7), 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 995–0732.*

★**"Impacting the World: Becoming a Person of Influence": Aglow International.** Talk by club president Delynne Ledbetter. Also, a screening of a DVD from the recent Aglow National Conference. Aglow is an international Christian organization devoted to meeting people's spiritual needs. *9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

"Car Carnival": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Apr. 21 & 22.* Hands-on activities about cars and car safety, including a chance to change spark plugs, dent and fix fenders, and more. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Apr. 21) & noon–4 p.m. (Apr. 22), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $10 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

Orchid Festival: Ann Arbor Orchid Society. *Apr. 21 & 22.* Show (noon–4:30 p.m. Apr. 21 & 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Apr. 22) and sales (10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) of thousands of breathtaking orchids. Also, talks and demos by orchid growers. Full schedule available at aaosonline.org. *Note:* the show on Apr. 22 is open 9–10 a.m. to photographers only. *10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 663–0756.*

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to hear stories about **Earth.** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $2 per person. 997–1533.*

★**"Midwest Literary Walk": Chelsea District Library.** A walk to various Chelsea locations to hear readings by different area writers. The lineup: Great Lakes chronicler **Jerry Dennis** and Ann Arbor poet **Jeff Kass** (11 a.m., River Gallery, 120 S. Main). Livonia playwright **David MacGregor** and the Detroit duo of performance poet **M.L Lieber** & bluesman **Robert Jones** (noon, Chelsea Center for the Arts, 400 Congdon), Detroit fiction writer **Lolita Hernandez** and Ann Arbor poet **Onna Solomon** (2 p.m., CDL, 221 S. Main), and veteran New England–bred poet **Thomas Lux** (4 p.m., River Gallery). Also, a **community open mike** (3 p.m, CDL). *11 a.m.–5 p.m., various downtown locations, Chelsea. Free. 475–8732.*

★**"Scio Woods Preserve Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members for a 3-mile hike at a leisurely pace. Kids (accompanied by a parent) welcome. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd. west of Wagner, Scio Twp. Free. 677–0823.*

★**"Eco-Restoration Workday & Wildflower Walk at Horner Woods": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** All invited to help remove garlic mustard and help with light trail maintenance at this wildflower sanctuary northeast of Matthaei. Tools provided. *1–4 p.m., meet in the U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens west lobby (1800 N. Dixboro) to caravan. Free. 647–7600.*

★**"Sketching the Human Hand": Ann Arbor District Library.** Detroit College of Creative Studies instructor Patricia Underdown offers a hands-on introduction to drawing the human hand. *1–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Ann Arbor Young Contra Dancers: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Peter Baker calls to live music by Fiddlefire. For students and people in their 20s & 30s. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. Bring clean, flat, non-marking shoes. *4–7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $13 (members, $12; students, $8). (248) 417–7968.*

"Momentum": The Factory Dance Company. Showcase of this local dance company featuring 4 new dances in various styles, from modern to hip-hop, including 3 dances by company director Tony Frazier—*Momentum, Playback,* and *Eall Ana (Alone)*—and assistant director Elissa Karstu's *Second Line.* The company also performs works by guest choreographers, including a work by Christina Sears Etter, the artistic director of the local modern dance troupe People Dancing. The program also includes performances by People Dancing and other guest artists TBA. *4–6 p.m., Tree of Life Cultural Arts Studio, 6065 Sibley Rd., Chelsea. $10 (kids age 12 & under, $5). 389–6302, 433–0697.*

"Spring 2012 Hometown Concert": Fiddlers ReStrung. This year's headliners are acclaimed NYC-based guitarist **Clay Ross** and the renowned cellist, fiddler, and composer **Mike Block,** a former member of Mark O'Connor's Appalachian Waltz trio who currently performs with Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble. Opening act is the **Fiddlers ReStrung,** an ensemble of Saline High School fiddlers that performs American folk, bluegrass, and Celtic music. *7 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. $15 (students & seniors, $10) at fiddlersrestrung.com. 429–8000, ext. 2338.*

Jazz Combos: EMU Music Department. Mark Pappas conducts music student jazz combos in programs of standard and contemporary charts. *2 & 7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Ron Brooks Trio: Kerrytown Concert House Club Series/Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association. Brooks, long recognized as one of the state's top jazz bassists, leads this local ensemble of pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson in jazz standards. Following the performance, a presentation and reception honoring Brooks, recipient of the 2012 SEMJA Award. Cash bar available. *7 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Swan Lake": Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan. *Apr. 21 & 22.* Wendi DuBois directs this Chelsea-based troupe of young dancers in a production of Tchaikovsky's beloved tragic ballet about a prince who falls in love with the swan-maiden Odette. The

Sunday matinee is preceded at 12:30 p.m. by a **Tea at the Lake** ($12 in advance only) featuring cast visits & photos and refreshments. *7 p.m., Chelsea High School, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. $18 (students, $12) in advance at youthdancetheatre.org and at the door. 475–3070.*

"Guys and Dolls": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Drop the Knife: A Memoir in Song": Jeanne Mackey & Friends. Local singer-songwriter and activist Mackey performs her disarmingly honest, wryly funny musical chronicle of her search for spiritual and emotional healing. She is accompanied by an ensemble that includes percussionist Lori Fithian, bassist Eric Fithian, and Laszlo Slomovits on guitar, mandolin, fiddle, pennywhistle, and pan pipes. *7:30 p.m., WCC Crane Liberal Arts Bldg. College Theatre, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. (entrance off Clark Rd.). $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance at brownpapertickets.com/event/235187 and at the door. 546–0243.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Dancing to recorded music. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *8–10 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3). 995–0011.*

Single Connections Dance: Parents Without Partners/Professional Volunteer Corps. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. With recorded 70s to contemporary dance music spun by DJ Mike Jackson. Cash bar. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a **"Meet & Greet for Singles"** ($2), with cards & board games, refreshments, and a chance to learn about PWP and PVC programs. *8 p.m.–midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 578–3664.*

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. *Note different location.* Robin Warner and Peter Baker call contras to live music by Fiddlefire. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded by a lesson at 7:30 p.m. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10 (members, $7; students, $5). 426–0241.*

"Dance for the Earth": Ecology Center Mary Beth Doyle Environmental Health Fund Benefit. This annual Earth Day party to celebrate the life and spirit of Mary Beth Doyle, the beloved Ecology Center staff member who was killed in an auto accident in 2004, features dancing—hopefully with some of Mary Beth's unstoppable verve—to music by **FUBAR,** a popular 6-piece local band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. Silent auction of works by local artists and other earth-friendly items. Cash bar. *8–11 p.m., Downtown Home & Garden, 210 S. Ashley. $20 minimum donation in advance and at the door. 761–3186, ext. 120.*

The Fab Faux: Live Nation. Critically acclaimed Beatles tribute band, a quintet of top NYC session musicians, bolstered by horn and string sections, that specializes in later works never performed live by the Beatles. Calling them "the greatest Beatles cover band—without the wigs," *Rolling Stone* senior editor David Fricke says that "the Faux invigorate the artistry of even the Beatles' most intricate studio masterpieces with top chops and Beatlemaniac glee." Tonight's 2nd set features a performance of ***Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band*** in its entirety. A big hit in its local debut in 2011. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $29.50–$85 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

"Carmina Burana": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in its season finale, highlighted by Orff's monumental cantata, with soprano **Mary Wilson,** tenor **Tim Culver,** and bass baritone **Paul Grizzell.** Its combination of medieval sounds and poetry and modern orchestral power makes *Carmina Burana* one of the most popular symphonic works of all time. The program also includes Brahms' *Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn* and Aaron Jay Kernis's *New Era Dance,* a contemporary American work that the *New York Times* described as "a six-minute explosion of New York exuberance." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$55 (discounts for students & seniors) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, suite 470), at a2so.com, and at the door. 994–4801.*

Ballet Preljocaj: University Musical Society. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

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Senior Living Week Expo
Exhibits and Workshops

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Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building
4800 East Huron River Drive,
Ann Arbor, MI

Exhibits Open
8:30am - 3:15pm
Meet with providers of senior housing, home health care and other senior support products and services.

Workshops

8:30am	Registration
9:00am	The Multiple Threats to Your Family's Security and How to Avoid Them
10:30am	Independence at Home
1:45pm	On the Leading Edge of Optimal Rehabilitation
3:15pm	Normal Aging: When is a Geriatric Assessment Needed?

Registration for ALL Senior Living Week Workshops is required. Contact the Housing Bureau for Seniors at (734) 998-9339 or visit our website at www.med.umich.edu/seniors.

Box lunches for May 11 are available for purchase with Registration Form.

Open Houses & Tours
Saturday, May 12 - Sunday, May 20

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Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community
Carpenter Place
Glacier Hills Senior Living Community
Hillside Terrace Retirement Community
Huron Woods
Sanctuary at St. Joseph's Village
Silver Maples of Chelsea
Sunrise of North Ann Arbor
The Cedars of Dexter

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Workshops
Saturday, May 12 - Friday, May 18

Saturday, May 12	
10:00	Wellness: the Key to Prevention
1:00	How to Avoid Becoming a Victim of Fraud
Monday, May 14	
10:00	Comparing Costs: My Home vs. Senior Housing
2:00	Living with Low Vision
Tuesday, May 15	
11:00	Living Safely and Independently at Home
2:00	New Health Care Legislation: What Seniors Should Know and Expect
Wednesday, May 16	
10:00	Make a Difference - Leave a Charitable Legacy
10:30	Understanding Long Term Care and Cost Options with Assisted Living Care and Nursing Homes
12:30	Focus on Your Finances
2:30	Aging in Place and Making Your Home Work for You
4:30	Local Public Transportation - Maintaining Your Independence and Mobility
Thursday, May 17	
10:00	Keeping the Keys
12:30	Dementia 101
2:30	Do You Need to See a Geriatrician Before Any Surgery?
Friday, May 18	
10:00	Successfully Navigating Transitions in Medical Care

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James E. Carpenter, MD
Head Orthopaedic Team Physician, U-M Athletic Department, Chair, U-M Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

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Tuesday, June 5

Golf Injuries: Treatment and Prevention

Jeffrey A. Housner, MD
Assistant Professor, Departments of Orthopaedic Surgery and Family Medicine

D. Patrick Dyer, MBA, AT, ATC, Coordinator, U-M Athletic Training Services

Gary Gulman: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

22 SUNDAY

★**Earth Day Festival: City of Ann Arbor.** This family-oriented event features live raptors and reptiles, hands-on craft activities, tours of the Project Grow Discovery Garden and Compost Education Center, guided hikes to Black Pond, green building displays, and exhibits by more than 60 local environmental, nonprofit, and governmental organizations. Entertainment by Gemini (1–2 p.m.), the popular local multi-instrumental acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits, along with other performers throughout the day TBA. Kids encouraged to come dressed as their favorite animal to join an "All Species Dance." Face painting; bubble making and bubble science demos. Light concession refreshments from Pilar's Traditional Salvadoran and Latin Cuisine and Silvio's Organic Pizza. All encouraged to ride bikes to the festival. *Noon–4 p.m., Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 794–6627.*

★**Jewish Hikers of Michigan.** All invited to join an easy hike. Bring a backpack, munchies, and drinks. No pets. *1 p.m., County Farm Park, 2230 Platt. Free. 883–9522.*

★**"Spring Things in the River Raisin": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** A kid-friendly hike to look at spawning fish, native mussels, and aquatic insects. *1–3 p.m., Sharon Mills Park, 5701 Sharon Hollow Rd., Manchester. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**"Thrice Accused, Thrice Excused: Slander and Witchcraft Trials in 1600": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by genealogist Grace Bliss Smith. Followed by a talk by club members on "Tracing Collateral Lines." *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Great Oaks Common House sitting room, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 971–5763.*

"Swan Lake": Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan. See 21 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Godspell": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

★**"The History of Early Cookbooks": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by English writer Anne Willan, former *Gourmet* editor and founder of the French cooking school La Varenne. *3–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**"White Picture": Jewish Community Center.** Award-winning Seattle poet and translator Lyn Coffin, a former Ann Arborite, reads her translation of haunting visionary poems by Jiri Orten, a Czech Jew who died at age 21 when he was refused admission to a nearby hospital after he had been hit by a speeding German car in Nazi-occupied Prague in 1941. Also, well-known local folk musician Laz Slomovitz performs some of his musical settings of Orten's poems. *4 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, with Joshua Bell: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 83.* Founded in 1959 by conductor Sir Neville Marriner, this acclaimed British string ensemble was a pioneer in the international revival of Baroque performance practice. Academy music director Bell—a superstar violinist known for his bright tone and forthright phrasing—leads the ensemble in an all-Beethoven program, including the fiendishly difficult Violin Concerto in D major, the *Coriolan Overture,* and Symphony No. 7 in A major. Also, a ceremony recognizing the Academy and Bell, recipients of the 2012 UMS Distinguished Artist Award. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$100 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**Clarinet Studio Recital: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** Performances by students of Cecilia Kang. *6:30 p.m., AASPA, 637 S. Main. Free. 213–2000.*

23 MONDAY

Bob Lutz: Washtenaw Economic Club. A talk by the colorful former General Motors vice chair. Lunch. *11:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $80 in advance only at washtenaweconclub.org. 477–8959.*

★**John Batdorf: Ann Arbor District Library.** Performance by this veteran singer-songwriter, best known as the frontman of the 70s country-rock band Silver. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Beethoven Sonata Class Recital: U-M School of Music.** Students of Aaron Berofsky perform Beethoven sonatas for violin and piano. *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** See 2 Monday. 8 p.m.

24 TUESDAY

★**"Is Everybody Really Equal?": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Racial Justice Book Group.** All invited to discuss Özlem Sensoy and Robin DiAngelo's book about social justice education. *7–9 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. Child care available with advance notice. 663–1870.*

★**"Breaking Free: How Forgiveness and A Course in Miracles Can Set You Free": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Local social worker Lorri Coburn discusses her new book. Signing. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Upper School Jazz Band Concert: Greenhills School.** Program TBA. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 769–4010.*

"Local Food to the Rescue": People's Food Co-op. Talk by **Joel Salatin,** the Virginia self-proclaimed "libertarian-environmentalist-capitalist-lunatic-farmer" whose family farm, Polyface, Inc., was featured in Michael Pollan's *Omnivore's Dilemma* and the documentary *Food, Inc. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. $15 (PFC members & students, $13) in advance at peoplesfood.coop. 994–4589.*

25 WEDNESDAY

Chocolate and Wine Tasting: Greenview Foundation Hepatitis C Fund. With Simply Blended Wines (Madison Heights) wine, Arbor Brewing Company appetizers, and Schakolad Chocolate Factory chocolates. Proceeds benefit hepatitis C medical research. *5–7 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. $25. Preregistration required. 223–8400.*

"Manon": Quality 16. See 7 Saturday. 6:30 p.m.

★**MiRobotClub.** All robotics hobbyists invited to work on and discuss robots. *7 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd north of Ellsworth). Free. (517) 618–9546.*

★**"More than Senior Moments: Understanding Early Signs of Memory Changes": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M health behavior & health education professor J. Scott Roberts. Followed by a Q&A with a panel of U-M experts. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Care, Cultivation, and Maintenance of Tropical Bonsai": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Talk by Wigert's Bonsai Nursery (Florida) owner Erik Wigert. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. (313) 930–1305.*

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Venus in Transit,*** Eli Maor's book about the history of the 5 previous Venus transits across the sun and the efforts made to record them. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"Travel SE MI—Historical Routes": Salem Area Historical Society. Talk by Ron Rademacher, a Michigan writer who has written 3 books about Michigan road trips. The program begins with a brief business meeting. *7:30 p.m., Jarvis Stone School, 7991 North Territorial at Curtis, Salem Twp. $2 (members, free). (248) 437–6651.*

★**Adam Unsworth: U-M School of Music.** This U-M horn professor performs works he recently commissioned, including works by Ukrainian composer and pianist **Catherine Likhuta** and an electro-acoustic piece by Cornell composer Kevin Ernste. Accompanied by Likhuta and violinist **Gabriel Bolkosky.** *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Veteran stand-up comic Judah Friedlander—best known for his role as the childish TV writer Frank Rossiano on 30 Rock—performs at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase April 22.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

26 THURSDAY

★**"Salamander Hunt": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Eddie Sanchez leads a foray along the edge of the Huron River to look for various salamander species. Wear boots or old shoes. *10 a.m.–1 p.m, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter–Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. $4 vehicle entry fee. 994–3569.*

"Manon": Quality 16. See 7 Saturday. 1 p.m.

★**Annual Meeting: Huron River Watershed Council.** BBQ potluck picnic and a talk on HRWC's past accomplishments and plans for the coming year. Also, presentation of volunteer awards. *5:30–7 p.m., Dexter District Library, 3255 Alpine, Dexter. Free. 769–5123, ext. 605.*

★**"Healing Psychosis: An Alternative Approach": Mental Health Recovery Book/Film Club.** Screening of a documentary about Finnish Open Dialogue, an approach to healing schizophrenia that has had better results than other methods. Followed by discussion with a member of the first Open Dialogue group in the U.S. *6:30–8:30 p.m., 400–B Washington Square Bldg., 202 E. Washington. Free. 709–2183.*

★**"What Is Good for General Motors? Solving America's Industrial Conundrum": Ann Arbor District Library.** Tom Crumm, the head of GM's Scenario Planning staff in the 1990s, discusses his new book. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Kids Pick Up Everything: How Parental Stress Is Toxic to Kids & What Parents Can Do about It": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon.** Panel discussion on David Code's book with local parents Theresa Bassett, Marcie Greenfield, Stephanie Cohen, and George Hoffman. Moderator is social worker Carole Kirby. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"Knock on Sky": The Neutral Zone.** Acclaimed short story writer **Lewis Robinson** reads from his work, in celebration of the release of the Neutral Zone's annually published anthology of works by local high school students. Also, readings by teens whose work appears in the book. *7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★**"American Portraits": Washtenaw Community Concert Band.** Chris Heidenreich conducts this 80-member adult band in works that are inspired by American icons and/or written by great American composers. The program includes works by Copland, music from *West Side Story,* and *As Summer Was Just Beginning,* Larry Daehn's work written for James Dean. *7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 252–9221.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 26–28.* This Chicago native is a very funny monologist known for his fresh, sharp observational humor about various aspects of contemporary life and culture. A frequent performer on cable TV, he has also made guest appearances in several series, including *Third Rock from the Sun* and *Boston Public.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

27 FRIDAY

"Beer Class: History of Beer": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. A Whole Foods staffer leads tastings of 6 beers. *6–7 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $6. 997–7500.*

★**"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard.** See 20 Friday. Tonight: **Ryan Shea & the Courtyard Quartet,** a local jazz ensemble led by Community High guitarist Shea. Weather permitting. 7–9 p.m.

"A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court": Young Actors Guild. *Apr. 27 & 28.* Sue Roe directs young local actors in John G. Fuller's adaptation of Mark Twain's classic. In this version a young engineer gets knocked out by one of his own experiments and wakes up in the court of King Arthur. *Note:* Kids age 11 & under must be accompanied by an adult. *7 p.m., Scarlett Middle School, 3300 Lorraine. Tickets $10 (students through high school, $5). 913–9800.*

"Be To Bop": Soul Full of Rhythm. *Apr. 27–29.* Sara Randazzo directs professional and student members of this local tap dance ensemble in choreography set to music by Thelonious Monk and Charlie Parker. Emcee is veteran local mime Michael Lee. *7:30 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $16 in advance at seatyourself.biz/solefullofrhythm; $20 at the door. 477–9359.*

"As You Like It": Skyline High School. *Apr. 27–29.* Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in Shakespeare's pastoral comedy, a high-spirited exploration of the requirements of justice between lovers, brothers, friends, and rivals. Set in the Forest of Arden where a duke and his court are living in exile, the play mainly concerns Rosalind, a young noblewoman who must disguise herself as a man to win the respect of her lover, Orlando, and of the world at large. With its deft counterpointing of multiple plots, its extravagance of word and wit, and its canny assault upon the various socially sanctioned ways in which people inflict themselves upon one another, *As You Like It is* arguably the greatest comic drama in English. It is certainly one of the most entertaining. Cast TBA. *7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets (price TBA) in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. 994–6515.*

"Fools": Huron High School Players. *Apr. 27 & 28 and May 4 & 5.* Pam Cardell directs students in Neil Simon's fairy tale about a schoolteacher who lands a job in an idyllic Russian hamlet that has been cursed with chronic stupidity for 200 years. *7:30 p.m., Huron High Little Theatre, 2727 Fuller. Tickets $8 (students & seniors, $6) in advance and at the door. 994–2095.*

Rita Hosking: Green Wood Coffee House (First United Methodist Church). Bluegrass-based Americana originals by this singer-songwriter from Davis (CA). Her songs are compassionate tales about ordinary folk from her north Californian background—loggers, miners, the mothers of lost sons—but there is anger as well as warmth in her voice," says *Guardian* (UK) critic Neil Spencer in his review of Hosking's *Come Sunrise* CD. "'Montgomery Creek Blues' and 'Promise Land' in particular meld the personal and political to become state-of-the-nation songs." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"Stargazing": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff and University Lowbrow Astronomers members discuss and demonstrate the seven Orion StarBlast 4.5 Astro Reflector telescopes soon to be available for checkout at the library. Followed by a chance to use these and other telescopes to view the night sky. *8:30–10 p.m. Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 327–4555.*

28 SATURDAY

★**"In Search of Salamanders": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS member Edwin Sanchez leads a fun morning walk turning over rocks and logs looking for various species of salamanders, including yellow-spotted, blue-spotted, red-backed, northern four-toed, and eastern newt. In case you end up handling salamanders, don't use any soaps,

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creams, or detergents on your hands this morning. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., meet at Hudson Mills Metropark Oak Meadows Picnic Area parking lot, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 994–3569.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, presents a program of music and movement for infants through 5-year-olds. *11–11:40 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Slow Art Day": UMMA.** All invited to view a collection of pre-selected works of art at your own pace, then join a discussion of the works with UMMA docents. Bring a bag lunch. Part of an annual event held around the world. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free, but preregistration required at slowartday.com. 763–UMMA.*

"Jamie and Jordan": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. *See review, p. 85.* Royal Oak playwright Kim Carney's hilarious musical about the importance of both a healthy lifestyle and a healthy friendship. Milk & cookies. For prekindergartners through 5th-graders. *1 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth under age 16, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

★**"From Forest Pond to Forest Floor—An Animal Exploration!": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** All invited to dip nets and containers in forest ponds and catch (and release) creatures that live there. Followed by a hike to explore fallen logs, leaf litter, and more. Bring boots you can get wet. Preceded at 10 a.m.–noon by a **garlic mustard pull.** *1–3 p.m., Miller-Smith Preserve, Parker Rd. dead-end at Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**"Kurt Sonen's Woodland Restoration": Wild Ones.** All invited to view a 1-acre wooded property full of native trees and plants, rain gardens, and an orchard that backs up to a 7-acre private nature reserve near Nichols Arboretum. *2–4 p.m., location TBA at for-wild.org/chapters/annarbor. Free. 604–4674.*

★**"Wildflower Walk": Waterloo Recreation Area.** WRA park interpreter Katie McGlashen leads a hike along the trails to look for spring wildflowers. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area. Free. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook and His Michigan Law Quadrangle": Barnes & Noble.** Retired U-M Law Library director Margaret Leary reads from her book about the problems that jeopardized Cook's 1930 gift that financed the U-M law quad. Q&A. Signing. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Preserving Your Digital Photos": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by The Henry Ford Benson Research Center digital archivist Lance Stuchell. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Chris Hyndman: Riverside Arts Center.** This EMU art professor demonstrates acrylic painting techniques. *3 p.m., RAC, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Free. 480–2787.*

"Spring Flavors: An Introduction to Farmers Market Foods": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's staff discuss some of the foods they find at regional farmers markets and offer taste samples of some of its cheeses with spring greens and the last of the winter vegetables. *4–6 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $5 (includes a $5 coupon for the Creamery cheese shop). 929–0500.*

★**Craig Combs: Common Language Bookstore.** This Michigan poet reads from ***Taking Tea in the Black Rose*** (see 16 Monday Nicola's listing). Signing. *4 p.m., Common Language, 317 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

Scandinavian Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Scandinavian couple dances, including hambo, schottis, polska, springar, and more. No partner necessary. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *5–7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5 (students, $3). (908) 721–2599.*

Rodney Whitaker Sextet: Kerrytown Concert House. This local jazz sextet, led by internationally renowned bassist and MSU music professor Whitaker, performs jazz standards. With saxophonist Diego Rivera, pianist Reggie Thomas, drummer Randy Gelispie, trumpeter Etienne Charles, trombonist Mike Dease, and vocalist Mardra Thomas. *7 & 9 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court": Young Actors Guild. See 27 Friday. 2 & 7 p.m.

"The Music of Mindfulness: A Joe Reilly Fundraiser Concert. Local singer-songwriter Reilly performs his heartfelt songs promoting peace, responsible stewardship of the environment, and joy in communities throughout Michigan and beyond. Proceeds help fund his return trip to Plum Village in France to participate in a 3-week mindfulness retreat with Vietnamese Zen master Thich Nhat Hanh. *7:30–9 p.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard. Donation. 846–2848.*

"West Side Story": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. *Apr. 28 & 29 and May 4–6.* Ashley Park directs Pioneer students in Arthur Laurents' spirited musical adaptation of Romeo and Juliet, set in New York and featuring the rival street gangs the Sharks and the Jets. The beloved Leonard Bernstein-Stephen Sondheim score includes such favorites as "Maria," "Tonight," and "America." *7:30 p.m., PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets $15 (seniors age 65 & over, students, & PHS staff; $10) in advance at showtix4u.com, and at the door. 994–2191.*

"Be To Bop": Soul Full of Rhythm. See 27 Friday. 4 & 7:30 p.m.

"As You Like It": Skyline High School. See 27 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Fools": Huron High School Players. See 27 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

4th Saturday English and American Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. High-energy contras, older chestnuts, some slow-groove tunes, contra-friendly English, extra couple dances, and more, with callers and live music TBA. No partner needed. All dances taught. Wear flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.*

★Hindustani Classical Music Concert: Swar Sandhya/U-M School of Music. Local and international musicians perform Bollywood songs. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

29 SUNDAY

32nd Annual Classic Bicycle Show and Swap Meet. This show, swap, and sale features more than 7,000 bikes from teetery 1880s "penny-farthings" to curvy WWII-era bikes, balloon-tire classics, BMX bikes, and more. Awards for numerous categories, including the best bike from each decade. Also, an **"Old School Minibike Show and Swap Meet"** that features vintage gas-powered minibikes and scooters. More than 250 vendors with bicycle parts, accessories, and memorabilia from every era. Door prizes. *8 a.m.–3 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. $3 (kids age 9 & under, free). (248) 642–6639.*

★"Lucretius: Humanism in 54 BCE": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by retired Unitarian minister Harold Cole. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994–4473.*

"Coffee and Food Pairings": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff discuss and offer taste samples of foods that go best with some of their coffees. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. 929–6060.*

Annual Tuber Sale: Michigan Dahlia Association. Sale of hundreds of Dahlia flower tubers. Al so, handouts for new growers and screening of the DVD *You Too Can Grow Beautiful Dahlias. 1–3:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 429–5796.*

★"El Dia de los Ninos": Ann Arbor District Library/Ypsilanti District Library. This family-oriented celebration of the traditional Latin American Children's Day features music, dancing, traditional treats, crafts, and more. *1:30–4:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Spring Wildflowers along the Saline River": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. A hike to look for blue cohosh, trilliums, Dutchman's britches, and other wildflowers. Wear shoes that can get muddy. *2–4 p.m., Draper-Houston Meadows Preserve (park at Milan High School, 200 Big Red Dr., North off Redman, south off S. Platt), Milan. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★Beltaine Ritual: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to join local neopagans for this ancient Celtic holiday that celebrates fertility. Raffle & potluck. *2–5 p.m., 2185 N. Harris Rd., Ypsilanti. Free. 277–1897.*

★"Kids Art Fair": Ann Arbor District Library. *Apr. 29 and May 2 & 5.* All kids in grades K–8 invited to submit art work to be included in a juried Kids Art Fair at the Townie Street Party on July 16. Bring samples of your work and be prepared to talk to judges. *2–5 p.m. (Apr. 29 & May 5) & 5–7 p.m. (May 2), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

"Be To Bop": Soul Full of Rhythm. See 27 Friday. 2 p.m.

"West Side Story": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 28 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"As You Like It": Skyline High School. See 27 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

★"Let's Dance": Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in Bernstein's *West Side Story Dance Music,* the Glenn Miller medley *In a Miller Mood,* Eugene Damare's "The Wren Polka" (with piccolo soloist Diane Telgin), Alfred Reed's *Armenian Dances,* Strauss's "Emperors Waltz," Arthur Sullivan's "Pineapple Poll," and Sousa's "Fairest of the Fair." *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426–2734.*

"Rhapsody in Ragtime": River Raisin Ragtime Revue. Tuba player William Pemberton leads this Tecumseh-based ensemble of area musicians in Gershwin's "Swanee" and works by James Reese Europe, the African American bandleader who influenced the young Gershwin. Also, popular local pianist **Louis Nagel** performs Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and solo works by Louis Gottschalk. *3 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport Rd. Tickets $25 (students, $10) in advance at ragtimeband.org, and at the door. (517) 423–1962.*

"Season Finale": Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in a program highlighted by performances of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in D minor featuring violinist **Gareth Johnson,** a junior laureate of the 2002 Sphinx Competition who performs today on a 1709 Stradivari violin from the Henry Ford collection. Also, the Overture to Herold's comic opera *Zampa,* Sarasate's *Zigeunerweisen,* and Dvorak's Symphony no. 8 in G major. *3:30 p.m. EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. $14 (seniors, students, & kids under age 12, $7:50; groups of 4 or more, $9 each) in advance at ypsilantisymphony.org and the EMU box office (487–5386), and at the door. 507–1451.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★"All in One, One in All": First Baptist Church Ad Libitum Concert Series. The church chorus and church vocal and instrumental ensembles and soloists perform a variety of spiritually inspiring music. *4 p.m., First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Free. 663–9376.*

Andrew Anderson. An accomplished accompanist, chamber musician, and soloist, this veteran local pianist with a longstanding passion for the music of Bach performs the ***Goldberg Variations,*** Bach's keyboard masterpiece. *4 p.m., Faber Piano Institute, 3042 Creek Dr. at Packard just east of Platt. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 665–7346.*

Ronny Cox: Green Wood Coffee House (First United Methodist Church). Most widely known as the man who plays "Dueling Banjos" with the mute boy in *Deliverance* and the villainous boss of the privatized police in *Robocop,* Cox is actually a mild-mannered singer-songwriter whose songs blend folk stylings with Western music, jazzy blues, and cornball humor. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

30 MONDAY

★"Yoga for Women": Ann Arbor District Library. Local yoga teacher Victoria Duranona leads a program of kundalini yoga exercises. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★Arthur Greene: U-M School of Music. This U-M piano professor performs an all-Scriabin program, including Sonata no. 1 in F minor, Sonata no. 2 in G-sharp minor, Fantasy in B minor, *White Mass Sonata, Black Mass Sonata,* and Sonata no. 4 in F-sharp major. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

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Classifieds & Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✉=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

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Please call with any questions or comments: (734) 769–3175

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Women Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Bright, slim, caring **SWPF** ISO true gentleman for friendship, maybe more. RSVP soon. 5786✍

Cute, fit, girl teddy bear ISO LTR with boy teddy bear 45+. For dancing to the Blues, cassoulet by the fire, more. 5794✍

Female, 50, looking for someone to hang out with. I'm a smoker and occasional drinker. 5809 ✍

Woman, 51, seeks male for companionship. No computer, no emails. Just mail or phone. For contact, print if you write. 5811 ✍

Men Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Deaf male, **SW,** wife died. Looking for good woman, 39–49, who likes movies, walks, Thanksgiving, and family good times. 5803 ✍

Ready for love, SWM, 41, in search of special lady. 5808 ✍

SWM, 5'11", is an expert on film, music of the 50s & 60s, and American history. ISO intelligent SWF, who loves the arts and sports. I also enjoy tennis and long walks. 5805 ✍

General Personals

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

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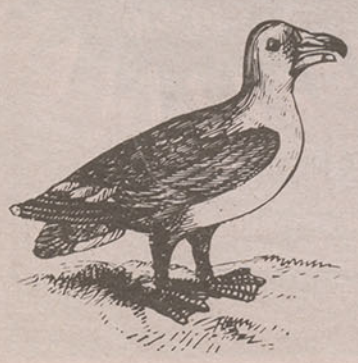
Upcoming events:
April 6, Dinner & Drinks, Livonia
April 8, Easter Brunch, Sheraton Inn
April 12, General Meeting, Aloha Party
April 13, Dinner & Dancing, Weber's Inn
April 20, Dinner & Dancing, Chelsea
April 21, Dueling Pianos, Karl's Kabin
April 27, Informal Euchre, Colonial Lanes
April 27, Lazer Tag, Zap Zone, Ypsilanti
Visit **a2skiclub.org!**



Employment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

To pick up 10-year-old from school and afterschool activities. 2–3 hours/day, MONDAYS and TUESDAYS only. $12–15/day. References and car required. Email kgvsfamily@gmail.com

Entertainment

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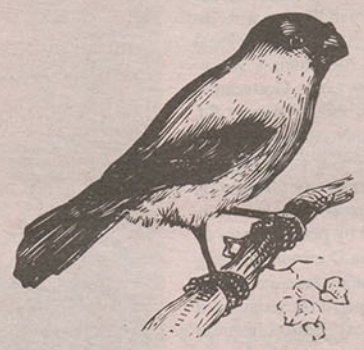
Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 99? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate to spend at an Ann Arbor Observer advertiser of your choice. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, April 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).



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Outdoors

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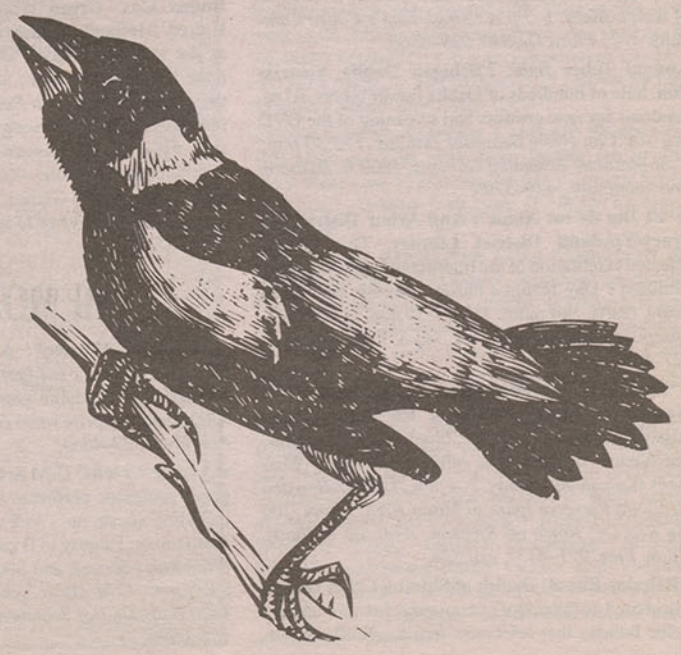

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Real Estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

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Residential and Commercial Properties
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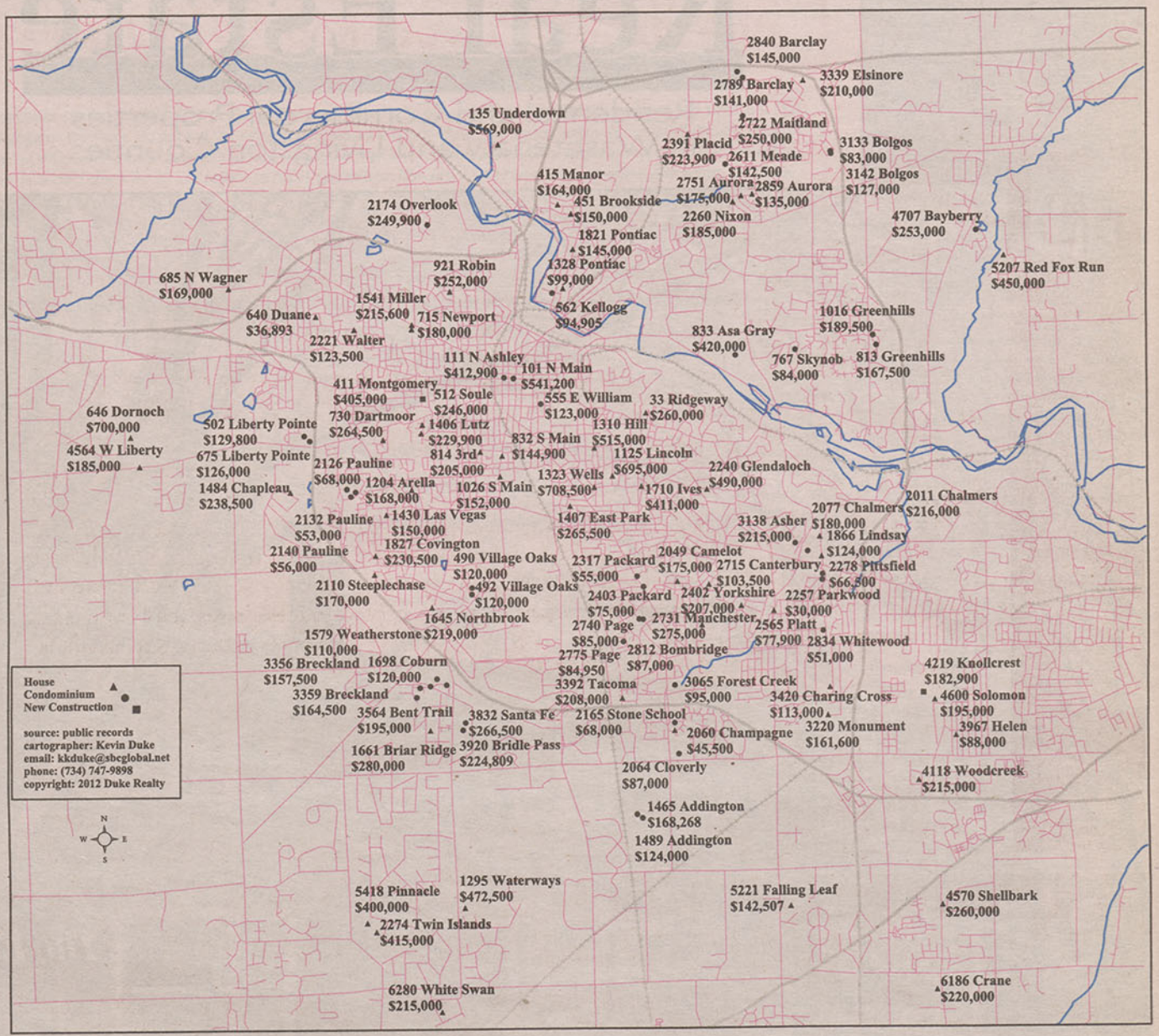
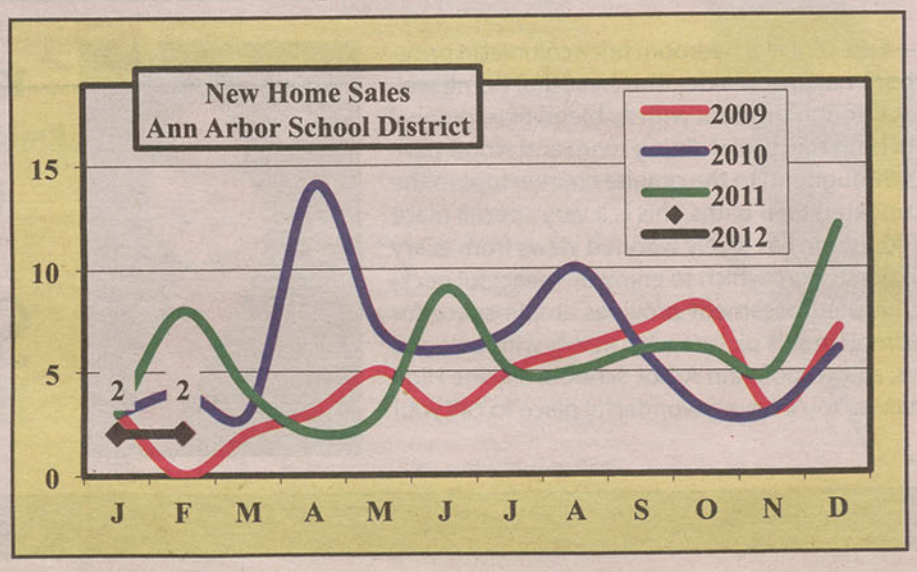
FEBRUARY 2012 HOME SALES



Sales of new homes remain few and far between so far this year. This month's map includes just two of those rare birds. First, there's 4291 Knollcrest—mislabeled "4219 Knollcrest" on the map—in Pittsfield Township east of Carpenter and south of Packard roads. The four-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath floor plan has 1,560 square feet of living space. It was sold by Triangle-Arborwoods for $182,900. Second, there's the condo at 411 Montgomery, north of West Liberty and west of South Seventh. One of the six-unit Montgomery Woods condominiums developed by Huron Contracting, the three-bed, two-and-a-half bath condo measures 1,850 square feet and sold for $405,000.

The numbers of new homes sold monthly since 2009 are tracked on the chart. New construction in 2011 amounted to just $18 million, counting condos and single-family homes together. That's less than the $20 million sold in 2010 but above the $15 million sold in 2009—the bottom of the real estate market crash. Construction in 2011 totaled just one-tenth of the tally recorded in the boom year of 2005, when builders hammered out $179 million in sales in the Ann Arbor School District.



Our summary overlooks the nascent boom in commercial construction in Ann Arbor. Hundreds of new homes are being built right now, but they won't appear on the map because they aren't being built for sale. Zaragon West on Thompson, the Legacy on South U, and the Varsity on Washington are all being marketed as rental student housing … currently.

In the future, many of these new apartment buildings are likely to be converted to condominiums. Recall that Tower Plaza, built in 1969 at 555 East William, just across the street from Zaragon West, was converted from rentals to condominiums in 1987. Today's developers found access to financing for apartment projects, so of course the action followed the money. But it shouldn't come as a surprise, when the condo market finally takes flight, if some of these buildings follow the money there. If Zaragon West's ninety-nine apartments sold for $280 per square foot, as Tower Plaza's condos averaged in 2011, it would amount to $27 million in condo sales—and that is a very conservative valuation for that swank new building.

—Kevin Duke

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Burns Park Enjoy the charm of a 1920's, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1,536 sq. ft. home. This seller did everything right! Many original fixtures, woodwork and period features preserved and restored. Double lot. $430,000. Deb Odom Stern 734-604-3704, 734-669-5969. #3200833

Pittsfield Twp Spectacular 5,568 sq. ft. custom home on 2.5 acres. 1st floor master, awesome kitchen and laundry with custom built cabinets and top appliances. Finished lower level, 4.5-car garage. Pond. Must see! $599,900. Debbie Leutheuser 734-323-7067, 734-669-4532. #3004746

Walnut Ridge Gorgeous brick 2-story with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Granite and maple kitchen, large 2-story living room with fireplace, tons of windows, beautiful master, full basement, large deck. $689,900. Marygrace Liparoto 734-497-6774, 734-669-5933. #3104921

Newport Hills Superior craftsmanship and masterful details! 2-story home by Christian Tennant with expansive great room with fireplace, bonus room, custom trim and woodwork, Motawi tile, hardwood floors. $875,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6830. #3201592

Winans Woods Stunning 5 bedroom, 5.5 bath with unique features and quality throughout! Wood floors, granite, gourmet kitchen, 1st floor study and master suite. Finished walkout with sauna. Inground pool, brick patio. $899,000. Tracey Roy 734-417-5827, 734-669-5877. #3200990

Scio Township All brick, 4 bedroom colonial. Open foyer and marble floors, cherry wood floors, 1st floor study, formal living and dining, finished lower level with rec room. Panoramic views of Honey Creek. $1,150,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909, 734-669-5959. #3200522

NW Ann Arbor Fabulous 5 bedroom, 3 bath plus study with finished lower level. Custom kitchen designed for Alton Brown's "All Star Kitchen Makeover", 2 fireplaces, wonderful natural light, over 1,300 sq. ft. of decking, large garage. One acre. $459,900. Ed Ridha 734-645-3110, 734-669-5920. #3200842

Burns Park Wonderfully updated family home with new fixtures and hardware, freshly painted, new kitchen with cherry, granite and stainless appliances, mudroom. Brick patio, landscaped. $600,000. Carolyn Lepard 734-417-2900, 734-669-6808. #3201026

Stonebridge Golf Course Glamorous 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath with golf course and pond views. Spacious and open, gourmet kitchen, 1st floor study, stunning living and dining with walls of windows, walkout, deck. $799,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3201292

Dexter Location, location! Magnificent 5,654 sq. ft. custom home on 9.8 acres overlooking beautiful, 16 acre private lake. 3-car garage, deck, brick patio, Landscaped. Only 5 minutes to Dexter, 15 minutes to Ann Arbor. $895,000. Diane Hanselman 734-665-0455, 734-669-5908. #3200295

N.E. Ann Arbor Incredible 5.6 acre estate on Natural Beauty Road minutes from downtown Ann Arbor. Great for entertaining, 4 bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, enourmous living/dining room combo, walkout lower level with bar and sauna. $950,000. Sheila Shulman 734-646-8800, 734-669-5852. #3201420

Huron River Fabulous wide-river views with woods beyond from every room. New with elegant, natural finishes. Private 3.29 treed acres, 300 ft. of Huron River frontage. www.6140FirstSt.info. $1,295,000. Jeri Sawall 734-395-4926, 734-669-5907. #3108472

Stonebridge Contemporary home with state-of-the-art details. 3 bedrooms, updated baths, kitchen and master suite. Maple hardwood floors throughout, great room, finished lower level. $565,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909, 734-669-5959. #3201619

NW Ann Arbor Completely updated, contemporary home on 10 acres with a natural-beauty vista as far as the eye can see. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, large library, expansive master suite. $650,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6830. #3200563

Ann Arbor Hills Wonderful, brick, contemporary 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath home beautifully renovated. Striking details, gourmet kitchen, master with private deck, au pair or office suite, walkout. $839,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3201278

Barton Hills A tree house for grown-ups, contemporary and exciting. Great for entertaining, amazing view of Barton Pond! Open plan, windows all around, heated travertine floors, fireplace. Under 10 min to downtown Ann Arbor. $895,000. Sylvia Romeijn 734-358-7870, 734-669-5985. #3201482

Ann Arbor Hills Updated mid-century, modern, 5 bedroom designed by architect David Osler. Floor to ceiling windows, lushly landscaped acre. Unparalleled style and privacy minutes from downtown. $1,100,000. Anne and John Sloan 734-476-3444, 734-669-6806. #3201069

Chelsea Magnificent 62 acre estate! Stunning 6,100 sq. ft. main house with 4 fireplaces, library, fabulous finishes. 2,000 sq. ft. guest house, fantastic pool, small lake, pond, 8-stall horse barn. Chelsea Schools. $1,900,000. Deborah Engelbert 734-368-3683, 734-433-2183. #3107682

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GRASS LAKE – Spectacular 98.5-acre estate featuring gorgeous grounds, horse setup, ponds, and custom-built home. This is a truly one-of-a-kind property perfect for the outdoor enthusiast. Land includes large pond, pasture area, woods, and some farm land. Home includes 5-bedroom, 3-bath, two ½-bath, grand proportions, indoor pool, and shooting range. $1,599,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This stunning home was custom-built for the 2008 Showcase of Homes Tour. You will be impressed by quality of materials and craftsmanship. This home rests on 7 ½ peaceful acres that includes a scenic pond, covered bridge, in-ground pool, and 60' x 100' barn. Interior features include two-story great room, chef's kitchen, luxury first-floor master suite, sunroom, den, and incredible finished basement. $1,275,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home is one of the finest custom-built homes you will ever see. Incredible craftsmanship. Nestled on a wooded 2.4 acre lot. Extensive landscaping, patio, and putting green. Home has every amenity including a two-story great room, sunroom, dream kitchen, luxury bath, and the ultimate finished basement. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Very special 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built, builder's own home backing to Polo Fields golf course. Gorgeous brick and stone exterior, extensive landscaping, and the finest covered patio with outdoor kitchen you will see. Interior is top-of-the-line in every way. Custom kitchen, extensive moldings, high ceilings, and luxury amenities in every room of the home. $1,050,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – Rare Find!! Five year 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home just one block from Burns Park Elementary. Home has all the current dream upgrades. Great design features cherry kitchen with granite, family room with fireplace, den, luxury master suite, and unique third floor flexible use space. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Incredible 6-bedroom, 5-bath, 2 ½-bath home on an acre plus lot in Saline. This home is loaded with custom features and amenities inside and out. Exterior features extensive landscaping, spacious yard, large deck, and two patios. Interior includes gorgeous living room, cherry kitchen with granite, cherry paneled den, first-floor master, and incredible finished basement. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GLENNBOROUGH – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home by Russell. This home rests on one of the most gorgeous settings you will find backing to trees and wildlife. The interior is special featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, large custom kitchen with Corian, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BURNS PARK – This nicely updated 3-bedroom, 1 ½-bath brick colonial has Burns Park as it's front yard. Stately home with great backyard, large patio, offering nice privacy. The interior is loaded with charm and character including all hardwood floors, maple kitchen, large living room with built-ins, formal dining, large master bedroom, and remodeled baths. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA SCHOOLS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on Crooked Lake. Enjoy incredible panoramic views of this peaceful lake with an abundance of wild-life, boating and swimming available. Home is gorgeous and features all maple floors and trim, great room with views of the lake, open kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $499,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

3000 GLAZIER WAY – Stunning 3-bedroom, 2-bath condo in Ann Arbor's most desired building. Enjoy the gorgeous natural surroundings from this fabulous unit just minutes from hospitals, U-M, and North Campus. Features open great room, porch overlooking the woods, sunroom, spacious master bath, and study. Freshly painted, move-in condition. $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

EBERWHITE – Rare find! Sharp 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial in a quiet, tucked-away neighborhood convenient to everything. Great setting with one of the nicest yards you will find. Great trees, screened porch, and large backyard. The interior is move-in condition with hardwood floors throughout, large living and dining rooms, great family room with fireplace, spacious kitchen, and master suite with sitting area. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Market Update

2011 was a good year for Ann Arbor area real estate. In many areas, prices have increased. Our market has stabilized with lower numbers of homes for sale, consistent demand, and low interest rates. 2012 should see a continuation of this trend. Our market will be driven by The University of Michigan and the improving US auto industry.

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Agent in Saline Schools
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BUYERS – My buyers, personally represented by me, have been successful in finding some of the BEST homes and the BEST prices in our market. The issues of financing, short sales, and bank owned homes is more complicated than ever. It makes sense to be represented by a proven professional.

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BARTON HILLS –Experience an incredible setting in Ann Arbor's most exclusive neighborhood. This 3 ½-acre wooded parcel features rolling land, great privacy, and ample wildlife. Home is a mid-century contemporary with great architectural significance but in need of major updating. Two-bedroom, 2-bath, home with very large great room, nice master suite, and tons of windows. $489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SANDPIPER COVE – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom built colonial on a gorgeous acre lot backing to a mature tree line. This home presents like a model home. Incredible grounds with beautiful plantings, two-tier deck, and shady backyard. Interior features maple kitchen with granite counters, open family room with built-ins, oversized master suite with sitting room and exercise area, and great kids' bedrooms. $420,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Very nice 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on 10 gorgeous acres including woods, stream, open grassy area, and barn. Enjoy your summer from the 4 level deck, pool, and screened porch. Home is spacious and includes large living room, formal dining, open kitchen, multiple family rooms, the brightest master suite you'll find, and finished basement. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE CAPE – Classic 4-bedroom, 1-bath cape on a quiet west side Ann Arbor neighborhood-- an easy walk to downtown. This home is highlighted by the newer maple kitchen with Corian counter tops. Other features include hardwood floors, coved ceilings, large living room, and generous bedrooms. Two car garage and great backyard $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – CHELSEA – Charming early century 3-bedroom, 1-bath farmhouse on 10 peaceful acres on the east side Chelsea. Quick access to I-94. Property is gorgeous and has a great dedicated horse barn and fenced pasture. Home is loaded with old world charm with wood floors, oversized molding, large living room with fireplace, country kitchen, and family room. $234,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – NORTHVIEW – Move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. Great location on a quiet street deep within the sub. Lot features large backyard, nice deck, and great landscaping. The interior is spacious and includes open kitchen, flex use sitting/family room, large living room, great master suite, and nice sized kids bedrooms. $199,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Incredible 3-bedroom, 3 ½-bath condo walking distance to downtown Saline. The best unit on the market which features hardwood floors, a fireplace, open kitchen with Corian countertops, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling, two additional bedrooms upstairs, and a full finished basement with multi-use rec space and bath. $184,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Matt Dejanovich has been a Realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 22 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients.

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NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32-acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. $995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NW ANN ARBOR – This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walkout basement. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MATTHAEI FARM – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on a 2.6 acre natural oasis in an Ann Arbor loved neighborhood. Incredible grounds feature ample plantings, mature trees, and complete privacy. Featuring living room with vaulted ceiling, cherry kitchen, open family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $769,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WALNUT RIDGE – Incredible contemporary gem in one of Ann Arbor's most sought-after neighborhoods. This home features incredible flair and features. Highlighted by the one-of-a-kind kitchen with stainless steel cabinets, professional grade appliances, and concrete counter tops. Features include all maple floors on the first floor, two-story great room, and luxury master suite with dream bath and closet. $735,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE - Custom-built 5-bedroom, 4-bath colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in Saline's school district. Great setting with extensive landscaping, large deck, and view of trees and stream. The interior of this home is fantastic and features two-story foyer and family room, open kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR HILLS – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home has been beautifully expanded and updated. Great setting on a quiet tree-lined street. Remodeled kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, and the first-floor master bedroom addition. Interior features family room with fireplace, formal living room and dining room, and finished basement. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WATERWAYS – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on one of the best lots in the neighborhood. Enjoy this quiet cul-de-sac setting backing to wooded common area. Home is spectacular with perfect décor throughout and features 2-story family room, open kitchen with granite, luxury first-floor master suite, great kids bedrooms, bonus room, and finished basement. You will love it! $525,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

COUNTRY ESTATE –This dramatic 3-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built ranch rests on 3-plus wooded acres just 10 minutes from Ann Arbor. Features include attractive stone accented exterior, screened porch, large deck, custom cherry kitchen, open family room with fireplace, raised ceiling throughout, finished walkout basement with multi-use recreation space, and Geo-thermal heat and a/c (very low energy cost). $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – Completely updated 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home located deep within the neighborhood. Great lot with large backyard, paver patio, and extensive landscaping. The interior has everything you've been hoping for including two-story family room with stone fireplace, maple kitchen with granite, den, formal living room and dining room, luxury master suite, and full basement with full kitchen and two rec rooms. $479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built home on a spacious acre plus lot in one of the most desired subs in the Saline Schools. Great exterior, with extensive landscaping, large deck, and circle drive. The interior features two-story family room, open kitchen with maple cabinets, den, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement with recreation room, bedroom, and bath. $459,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath water front home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Enjoy peaceful pond views from the oversized deck on this beautiful one-acre lot. Home has a nice contemporary flair and features an open kitchen and family room with water views, living room with vaulted ceiling, master suite with walk-in closet and luxury bath, and finished basement. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK WOODS – Stately 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on a quiet 1.3-acre lot located deep within one of Saline's most desired subs. Enjoy the spacious yard from the large deck or charming front porch. Features great kitchen with granite counters, oversized family room with vaulted ceiling, formal living room and dining room, first-floor den, luxury master suite with one of the largest baths you'll see, and great kids bedrooms. $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKE FOREST – Quality Wexford built, 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home located deep within the neighborhood on a quiet ½-acre lot. Great setting features gorgeous landscaping, large deck, and great backyard. The interior is sharp, and includes two-story family room, open kitchen with granite counters, formal living room and dining room, study, first-floor master suite, and nicely sized upstairs bedrooms. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

UPLAND HILLS – CHELSEA – This stunning, custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Quiet cul-de-sac lot backs to 20-acre nature preserve. Enjoy panoramic views of nature, ponds, and trees. Interior is sharp and features great room with 12' ceilings, large kitchen with hearth area, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LOHR LAKE – This gracious 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial rest on a quiet lot, deep within the neighborhood, backing to common area and ponds. Great ¾-acre lot with large deck, great backyard, and paver patio. The interior is sharp and features open kitchen with granite counters, large family room with fireplace, formal living room and dining room, first-floor den, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $389,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Very nice 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on a spacious acre-plus lot in one of Saline's most popular neighborhoods. Great setting with extensive landscaping, patio, and thick privacy foliage. The interior of this home sparkles, and is highlighted by the cherry kitchen with upgraded appliances, open family room, unique mid-level den, nice master suite, and finished basement. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial on 5 gorgeous acres just minutes from downtown Chelsea. Incredible setting features wooded views, large pond, huge deck, and small outbuilding. Home is in top-shape and features all hardwood floors, large living room, family room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters, and great master suite. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE - Oversized 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath ranch on a private 2.75 acre lot just minutes to downtown Saline and US-23. Wonderful setting features mature trees, extensive landscaping, and in-ground pool. Interior is spacious and features sunken living room with fireplace, oversized family room with room for game table and TV area, open kitchen, nice master suite, and lots of storage. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½ -bath colonial on 6+ peaceful, wooded acres just outside the village. Incredible setting features total privacy, ample wildlife, nature trails, large backyard, and out building. Home is special and includes large great room fireplace, three-season sunroom, open kitchen, nice master suite, and partially finished walkout basement. $289,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Very sharp 3-bedroom, 1-bath home walking distance to downtown Ann Arbor. This nicely cared for turn-of-the-century home is loaded with charm and character. Great curb appeal and huge backyard. Interior features hardwood floors throughout, spacious rooms, and nice master. You will love it. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Very sharp 2-bedroom, 1 ½-bath condo in the city, tucked away in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This unit, located in a small condo cluster, is walking distance to shopping, restaurants, and parks. Features include complete interior updates with new maple kitchen, carpet, and paint. Finished basement and attached garage. $179,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial is the nicest in Greene Farms. Great setting backing to common area. Exterior features large deck and great landscaping. Home features open kitchen, family room with fireplace, great master suite with vaulted ceiling, large bath, and walk-in closet. $152,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – Striking ranch on a very quiet street just a short walk to Depot Town. Wonderful fenced backyard with large deck and screened porch. The home has many updates and improvements including open kitchen with granite counter tops, large living room, and spacious bedrooms. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP – Remarkable 2-bedroom, 1-bath ranch at a remarkable price on 2+ acres of land just minutes from US-23. Incredible property with treed privacy on 3 sides. Home has many updates including newer roof, windows, furnace, septic, and is ready for your interior touches. Oversized great room with fireplace, vaulted ceiling, spacious kitchen, full basement, and updated bath. $99,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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i spy

by Sally Bjork

Near an unfinished bridge

"I Spy that building at 715 S. Forest Ave.," writes Vivian Loh. The "photo is of Forest Plaza," notes Dave Bicknell. "This Spanish Renaissance detail graces the entryway of the charming 1920's … apartment building," write Enio and Adriana Dill Gomes; "our first home as newly weds." Built in 1929, the original nine-story design for Forest Plaza was reduced to five and set back from the road after a controversy over building a high-rise in a residential neighborhood.

It's so set back that Bob DeBona didn't recognize it, even though "I have ridden by there hundreds of times on my bicycle." He credits his wife's genealogy "sleuthing skills" for tracking it down.

Judi Taylor writes that she "enjoyed searching the internet and city streets to find this,"—though it was her reluctant son, Dan ("Mom made me go with her") who spotted it first.

We received seven entries correctly identifying March's feature. James Ferguson is our random drawing winner. He will enjoy his $25 gift certificate at Seva.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

To all the angry birders who responded to last month's fake ad—and by that we are *not* referring to the bleary-eyed gamers who fall asleep launching cartoon birds on their phones—we would like to say: relax. The snowy owl has no greater friend than the Fake Ad Czar. He has studied it. He has steadfastly boycotted the Harry Potter movies, not because he doesn't like them (which, let's be clear, he really doesn't), but because they depict snowy owls as pets. He has trekked through the sewage-contaminated soil of the Muskegon wastewater facility to see it. And, as the accompanying photo would prove, were his editor not too stingy to make space for it, he has photographed it.

That trek inspired the ad for R. Borweb Quality Meats (page 36 of the March issue), whose special on rotisserie snowy owls ruffled the feathers of a murder of birders. "The poultry graphic was quite appealing," wrote Janet Hohmann-Lamb. "But Rotisserie Snowy Owl? Appalling! Both the Headmaster and the National Wildlife Federation will be looking into this."

In all, 159 Fake Adders spotted the ad. Our winner, Ellen Wilson, is taking her gift certificate to Williamston's Fabric Gallery.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. Hint: the fake ad always includes the word "arborweb."

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: 769–3375. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on April 10 will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

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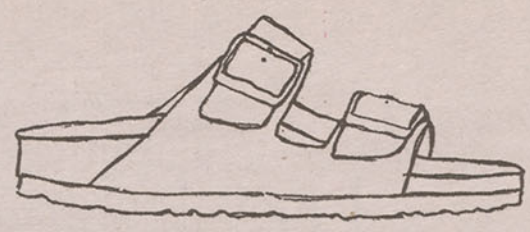

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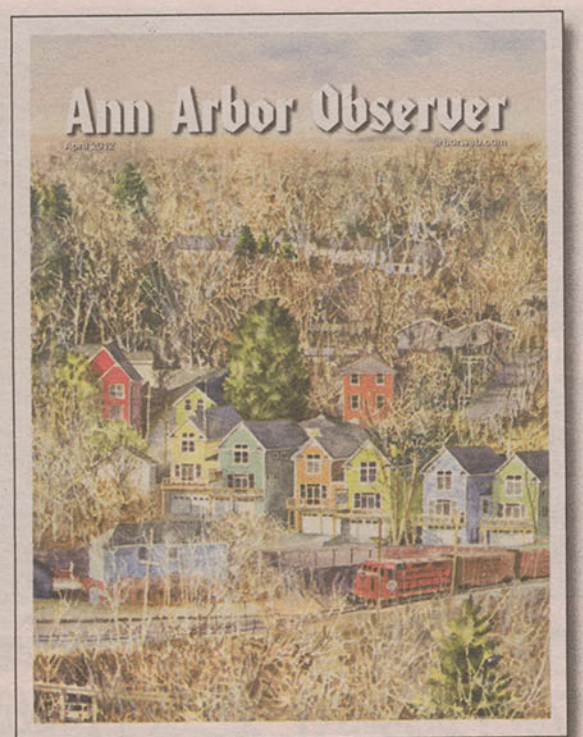

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Events at a Glance

*Daily **Events** listings begin on p. **57**. **Films:** p. **73**. **Galleries:** p. **67**. **Nightspots** begin on p. **52**.*

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Greek Chamber Music Project, Apr. 1
- Bolcom & Morris (American song cabaret), Apr. 5
- St. Lawrence String Quartet, Apr. 5
- The Akropolis Reed Quartet, Apr. 6
- U-M Kol HaKavod a cappella chorus, Apr. 9
- Tabla player Zakir Hussain & Masters of Percussion, Apr. 12
- Empire Brass, Apr. 15
- Percussionist Matthew Coley & Sonic Inertia, Apr. 15
- Lutenist Ronn McFarlane & flutist Mindy Rosenfeld, Apr. 20
- Mezzo soprano Alexandra Gravas, Apr. 16
- Pavel Haas Quartet, Apr. 18
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Apr. 21
- Violinist Joshua Bell & Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, Apr. 22
- Washtenaw Community Concert Band, Apr. 26
- Dexter Community Band, Apr. 29
- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, Apr. 29
- Pianist Andrew Anderson, Apr. 29

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

*See **Nightspots**, p. 52, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Gotye (art-pop), Apr. 2
- Mac Miller (hip-hop), Apr. 4
- JaLaLa Trio (vocalese), Apr. 4
- Wendell Harrison's Detroit Swing Ensemble (jazz), Apr. 7
- Suzzy Roche (singer-songwriter), Apr. 13
- Cheikh Lo (Senegalese singer-songwriter), Apr. 13
- Gretchen Parlato (jazz), Apr. 13
- Charles Lloyd New Quartet (jazz), Apr. 14
- Disappears (rock), Apr. 14
- Dick Siegel & the Brandos (singer-songwriter), Apr. 19
- Bela Fleck & the Flecktones (progressive bluegrass), Apr. 19
- Ben Rolston (jazz), Apr. 20
- Fiddlers Restrung with Clay Ross & Mike Block, Apr. 21
- Ron Brooks Trio (jazz), Apr. 21
- Jeanne Mackey & Friends (singer-songwriter), Apr. 21
- The Fab Faux (Beatles tribute), Apr. 21
- Rita Hocking (singer-songwriter), Apr. 27
- Rodney Whitaker Sextet (jazz), Apr. 28
- River Raisin Ragtime Revue, Apr. 29
- Ronny Cox (singer-songwriter), Apr. 29

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *H.M.S. Pinafore* (U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society), Apr. 1
- *Dead Man's Shoes* (Performance Network), Apr. 1 & 5–8
- *White Buffalo* (Purple Rose Theatre), every Wed.–Sat.
- *Cloud Nine* (U-M Theatre Department), Apr. 1 & 5–8
- *Godspell* (Encore Musical Theatre), Apr. 1, 5–7, 12–15, & 19–22
- *Wolf Cry Wolf* (New Theatre Project), Apr. 1
- *Next Fall* (U-M Basement Arts), Apr. 5–7
- *Derivatives of Identity* (U-M Dance Department), Apr. 8–10
- *Black Comedy* (U-M Residential College Players), Apr. 6 & 7
- Live broadcast of *Manon* (Metropolitan Opera), Apr. 7
- Live broadcast of *She Stoops to Conquer* (National Theatre–London), Apr. 11
- *Manic Pixie Dream Girl* (U-M Theatre Department), Apr. 12–15
- *Gianni Schicchi* (U-M Opera Studio), Apr. 12 & 13
- *Chicago* (U-M Musical Theatre), Apr. 12–15
- *Guys and Dolls* (EMU Theatre Department), Apr. 13–15 & 19–21
- *The Betrayal* and *Old Times* (U-M Residential College), Apr. 13
- *Machinal* (U-M Rude Mechanicals), Apr. 13-15
- Live broadcast of *La Traviata* (Metropolitan Opera), Apr. 14
- *Cloud Nine* (U-M Residential College), Apr. 15
- "4 in 24" (New Theatre Project), Apr. 15
- *Red* (Performance Network), Apr. 19–22 & 26–29
- *Snow White* (Ballet Preljocaj), Apr. 19
- *Swan Lake* (Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan), Apr. 21 & 22
- *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (Young Actors Guild), Apr. 27 & 28
- Soul Full of Rhythm tap dance ensemble, Apr. 27–29
- *As You Like It* (Skyline High School), Apr. 27–29
- *Fools* (Huron High School), Apr. 27 & 28

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- New Bosses of Comedy, Apr. 4
- Comic Mike Green, Apr. 5–7
- The Moth Michigan GrandSLAM, Apr. 11
- Comic Judah Friedlander, Apr. 12
- Comic Dale Jones, Apr. 13 & 14
- The Moth Storyslam, Apr. 18
- Comic Gary Gulman, Apr. 19–21
- Comic Mark Sweeney, Apr. 26–28

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Michigan Flintknappers "Spring Knap-In," Apr. 1
- Festifools Parade, Apr. 1
- U-M Latin@ Culture Show, Apr. 5
- Monroe Street Fair, Apr. 7
- Cobblestone Farm "Celebration of Spring," Apr. 15
- Ann Arbor Earth Day Festival, Apr. 22
- Classical Bicycle Show & Swap Meet, Apr. 29

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Novelist Mark Merlis, Apr. 3
- Novelist Owen Laukkanen, Apr. 3
- Poets Khaled Mattawa, Jennifer Chang, & Aimee Nezhukumatathil, Apr. 6
- Poet Anne Waldman, Apr. 13
- Poet Craig Comb, Apr. 16 & 28
- Fiction writer Jack Driscoll, Apr. 18
- Poet Jamaal May, Apr. 19

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Easter Egg hunts, Apr. 1 & 7
- Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow Burn, Apr. 1
- *Jamie & Jordan* (Performance Network Children's Theater), Apr. 28

"Only in Ann Arbor" Events of the Month

- Live broadcast of WCBN DJ arwulf arwulf's *Face the Music,* Apr. 4
- U-M Electronic Chamber Music Ensemble & Mycology Reading Group "Cagean Walk in the Woods," Apr. 14

APRIL 2012

www.art-design.umich.edu

school of art & design

4/1 ~ 8/5
Exhibition
Recent Acquisitions
Curator's Choice Part II

Associate Professor Susan Crowell is a part of this exhibition of recently acquired works from UMMA's collections.

U of M Museum of Art
525 South State Street

4/5 & 6
MFA Thesis Exhibition
Screening and Live Performance

A&D MFA candidate Emilia Javanica: Red Blob Massacre

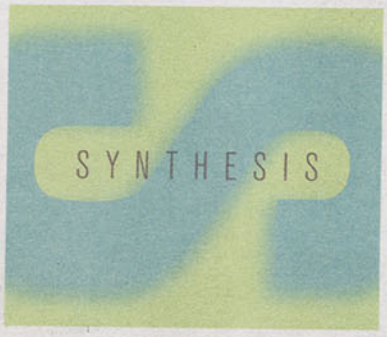
PERFORMANCE:
6:00pm & 8:00pm
Cavern Club
210 South 1st Street

4/5
Penny Stamps Series
Shelly Berg
Follow the Sun

A presentation by renowned by jazz pianist and composer Shelly Berg.
With support from the Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation at the School of Music Theater, and Dance.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty

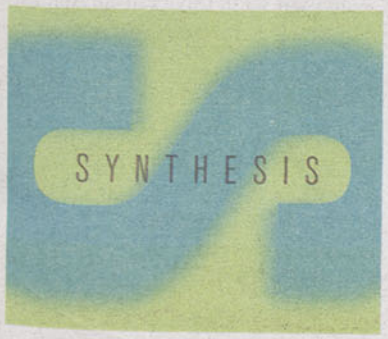
4/12
Screening
Synthesis: The A&D senior exhibition



Time based thesis work by School of Art & Design undergraduate seniors Jamie Adams, Jimmy Bloniarz, Teresa Dennis, Andrew Hainen, Kyle Kulik Chris Parker, Monica Ross, Kellyann Wargo, and Eli Yudin.

SCREENING: 5:00pm
Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty

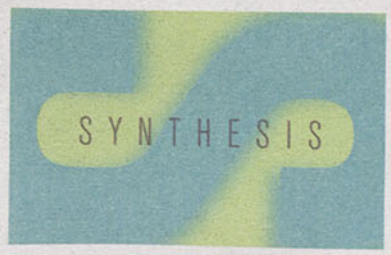
4/12 & 13
Off-Site Performance
Synthesis: The A&D senior exhibition



A Nap and Entropy
Thesis work by undergraduate senior Colin Fulton. An original theatre piece featuring 3D projections and original music.

PERFORMANCES:
7:30, 8:30, 10:00pm
Duderstadt Video Studio
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

4/13
Exhibition Openings
Synthesis: The A&D senior exhibition



OPENING: 6:00-9:00pm

Thesis work by A&D undergraduate seniors at A&D's three main Ann Arbor galleries.

Slusser Gallery
1st floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.
Robbins Gallery
2nd floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.
Work•Ann Arbor
306 S. State

SPECIAL INSTALLATION
by Danielle Battaglia

Traverse the Universe in the Duderstadt Center interactive virtual CAVE.

Duderstadt Center
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

4/14
Off-Site Openings
Synthesis: The A&D senior exhibition

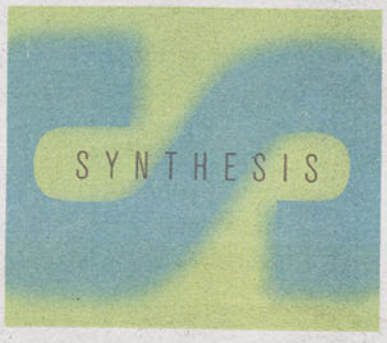
Between the Layers
Erica Wagner
OPENING: 5:00pm-7:00pm
The Common Cup
1511 Washtenaw Ave.

Biophilia Samantha levy
OPENING: 7:00pm
Above the **West Side Book Shop**
113 W. Liberty

The More Show
Megan O'Neil and Ellen Rutt
OPENING: 8:00pm
Warehouse, 1080 Rosewood St.

In Kind
James Bloniarz, Jill Brandwein, Laura Gillmore, Annie Hyrila
OPENING: 7:00pm
Ann Arbor Art Center
117 W. Liberty Street

4/15
Exhibition Opening
Synthesis: The A&D senior exhibition



The Extraordinary Ordinary
Thesis work by undergraduate seniors Daryl Alexsy, Dylan Box, and Ryan Thurmer.

RECEPTION: 4:00-6:00pm
Work•Detroit
3663 Woodward Avenue, Detroit

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